

'Algiers Treaty no longer exists'

(Continued from Page 1)

In the northern region of Kurdistan, the Iraqis set up two radar positions managed by three Iranian officers, not far from Iraqi troops, the agency said.

It said "appropriate measures were taken to eliminate the two positions and push the enemy back."

At the southern end of the front, Iranian soldiers fired shots but UN observers intervened to "stop the Iranian violations and returned two advancing Iraqis to their positions," INA said.

In other parts of the front the Iraqis set up barricades, fired a machine-gun, flew a helicopter near Iraqi positions, and set up other radar and observation posts, the agency added.

In Baghdad, the head of the peacekeeping force, Maj. Gen. Slavko Jovic of Yugoslavia, said "the ceasefire is operational. The situation along the border is generally calm."

He said there had been no confirmed major violations of the ceasefire.

Jovic said an Iraqi report last week that an Iranian sniper had killed an Iraqi soldier was "unconfirmed," but was being investigated.

"We didn't see a body so we could not confirm that report," he said.

Determining
Jovic said the roughly 300 UN observers on the ground were in the process of determining the forward positions held by both sides when fighting halted in the nearly eight-year-old war.

Asked about alleged threats by anti-Iraqi Kurdish rebels that they would not guarantee the lives of UN observers, the general said: "Our UNIMOG are not facing such a threat or such an activity at the moment."

The body of a Danish observer who died on the front from heatstroke, was taken to Baghdad international airport on the way to Denmark.

In Baghdad, the director of the Iraqi Ports Authority, Fahm Mousa, said today that the country's Gulf ports were preparing to receive and service commercial ships for the first time since the outbreak of the war.

He said a number of ships bound for other ports would be diverted to Iraqi ones.

Belly landing

CHICAGO, Aug. 28, (AP): A TWA jet carrying 68 people made a belly landing yesterday at O'Hare international airport after its landing gear failed, and at least seven people were injured while evacuating on chutes, authorities said.

The injured people were taken by ambulance to four nearby hospitals, said a Fire Department communications officer who refused to identify himself.

Youths go on rampage

Bombings rock N. Ireland

BELFAST, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Irish Republican Army sympathisers carried out nearly 200 attacks in Northern Ireland after a convicted IRA man was extradited from Dublin, police said today.

Three civilians — one of them a two-year-old child — were wounded in 23 shooting incidents and 17 bomb attacks in Belfast and the British province's second largest city, Londonderry, yesterday.

Violence

British troops fought snipers and petrol bomb throwers on the streets. The Royal Ulster Constabulary reported 193 attacks on its men and said a large number of policemen and a British soldier were hurt, none seriously.

Guns were opened fire on a police station in West Belfast last night but no casualties were reported.

More than 40 buildings were damaged and 56 vehicles hijacked in a day of violence which rekindled memories of IRA urban bombing campaigns of the 1970s.

The violence erupted after Dublin handed over to British security forces convicted IRA guerrilla Robert Russell in one of the biggest security operations mounted in years on the border between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

Russell, 30, was driven in a high-speed convoy from Dublin's Mountjoy jail, marched across fields to the northern side, and then flown in a helicopter to Belfast's Maze Prison.

Rampage

He escaped from the Maze in 1983, four years into a 20-year sentence for the attempted murder of a police officer. He fled to the republic but was arrested and jailed in Dublin.

In predominantly Roman Catholic West Belfast, an IRA stronghold, youths went on the rampage, setting fire to buses and throwing petrol bombs and stones at police and soldiers.

A bomb exploded outside Belfast city hall and another went off near a police station in the west of the city. The blasts followed telephoned warnings and caused no serious injuries.

Intent

Sniper exchanged fire with troops late into last night as patrols moved slowly through Republican areas around falls road, a flashpoint of violence in the city.

In Londonderry, two elderly women were injured when a bomb exploded near an old people's home and in Belfast, a British soldier was wounded by a hand grenade, security officials said.

"A relatively small number of people appear intent on reducing the quality of life in West Belfast to that of Beirut at its lowest level," said police chief superintendent Ian Williamson.

He accused the IRA and its political wing, Sinn Fein, of organising the attacks as part of their campaign to end British rule of the province.

In West Belfast, cars were hijacked and used to block roads before being set on fire. Police warned motorists to keep out of the area.

Police also reported at least 27 bomb alerts in Belfast. Shoppers hurried for safety as shops were evacuated and bomb disposal experts inspected abandoned vehicles suspected to contain explosives.

Belfast's international airport was shut briefly after a suspicious vehicle was found. It did not contain a bomb.

China raps Vietnam for delaying pullout

Kampuchea peace talks open

BEIJING, Aug. 28, (UPI): China opened an unprecedented meeting today with the Soviet Union on a peace settlement for Kampuchea, but separately assailed Vietnam for delaying a promised troops withdrawal from the occupied country.

The talks began this morning as visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tian Zengpei met at the state guest house in Beijing.

There were no immediate reports on the discussions, but China showed a tough stance in a sharply worded front-page commentary in the People's Daily, the Communist Party official newspaper.

The Soviet Union is the chief military and financial backer of Vietnam, which invaded and occupied Kampuchea in 1978. China is the major arms supplier and supporter of the Kampuchean resistance in the decade-old guerrilla war.

"Up to now Vietnam has

delayed the withdrawal of its troops by hook or by crook," said the front-page commentary.

"It continuously employs various tricks to deceive world opinion."

"China firmly supports the Kampuchean people to fight against aggression. If Vietnam does not end its occupation of Kampuchea, this support will not end."

Optimism

Rogachev, on his arrival yesterday for talks with Chinese officials expected to last until Friday, expressed unusual optimism about achieving a breakthrough in key obstacles to a settlement.

The talks, the first high-level Sino-Soviet meeting since the invasion of Kampuchea, could, if successful, also break a log-jam in improving relations between Moscow and Beijing.

Informed East European sources said Rogachev met with Tian last night on the agenda, which focuses only on Kampuchea and calls for all-day meetings.

If progress is made, one source said, the talks could expand to overall Sino-Soviet relations.

"It's like a bumpy road," the source said. "It will be tough."

China has called Soviet support for Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea the last obstacle in normalising ties and arranging a summit sought by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

But Western diplomats have been pessimistic about such an outcome.

The Soviets are expected to note at the talks with since Vietnam earlier this year began withdrawing some of its 120,000 troops in Kampuchea, attention has shifted to another obstacle to peace — Chinese support for the Khmer Rouge, the biggest resistance faction.

Hanoi has insisted on assurances the Khmer Rouge not be allowed to regain power in Phnom Penh and repeat its 1975-1978 reign of terror, in which up to two million Kampucheans died.

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Cause of Zia's plane crash

Theories abound

LONDON, Aug. 28, (AP): The Sunday Times of London reported that an initial inquiry found sabotage was to blame for the airplane death of Pakistan President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and 29 others.

The London newspaper said Pakistani officials believe Zia was killed by an international conspiracy involving five Pakistani activists in Britain.

But the Observer newspaper said today that Pakistani authorities were convinced India's intelligence service was responsible for the crash.

There has been no official report on the cause of the Aug. 17 crash that also killed US Ambassador to Pakistan Arnold Raphel.

On Sunday, Pakistani officials and US and British diplomats all said they had no knowledge of an initial report on the crash or the allegations.

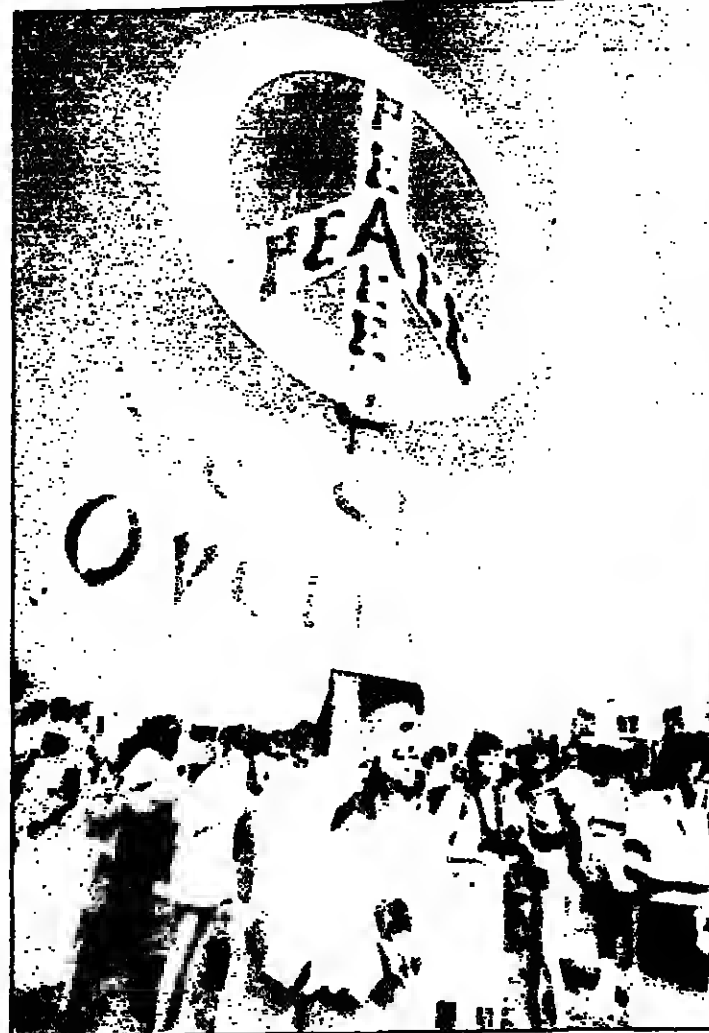
Findings

US diplomats have said they don't expect any information on the cause of the crash until after two US investigating teams submit their findings to the Pakistanis, which could take another week or more.

The Sunday Times gave no attribution for its claim that "an initial inquiry into the air crash... has confirmed that sabotage was to blame."

It said that because Pakistan has no extradition treaty with Britain, the Pakistan government is approaching the British embassy in Islamabad to ask that five Pakistanis in Britain be sent to Pakistan.

The embassy said today there had been no such approach from Pakistan. Both the Foreign Office and Home Office in London said they knew nothing about such a request. Britain's domestic Press Association news agency reported.



A demonstrator holds a placard during the march in Washington. (Reuter wirephoto)

Thousands mark anniversary of King's march

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28, (UPI): An estimated 55,000 Americans keeping Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream alive walked shoulder-to-shoulder from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial to mark the silver anniversary of the 1963 march on Washington and King's "I have a dream" speech.

Buses, cars and trains shuttled the legions from cities along the Atlantic seaboard and in the Midwest, while other people flew into the nation's capital from San Francisco, Los Angeles and other western points.

"We are here today to say that we will not be turned around because we still have a dream," King's wife, Coretta Scott King, told the demonstrators. "We still have a dream of a nation free from the cancer of racism and discrimination."

Her husband's historic speech on racial equality and social justice, which drew 250,000 people, prompted passage of the 1964 civil rights act, the 1965 voting rights act and the 1968 fair housing act.

Song

Perhaps the most moving part of the day came when the crowd had dwindled to only a handful and recording of King's 1963 speech boomed out from the Lincoln Memorial. Mrs. King, Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and other civil rights leaders clasped arms, swayed and sang "We shall overcome."

The US park police braced for a huge turnout yesterday, recalling that in 1983, the 20th anniversary of the march, 250,000 people packed the Washington mall. But the turnout yesterday was only 55,000, park police Sgt. Michael Smith said.

The Rev. Joseph Lowery, head of King's former Southern Christian leadership conference and a march organizer, said he was not disappointed by the turnout, citing the event's historic importance and the fact that millions of people saw it on television.

The National Weather Service said the temperature hit 91 degrees (33 C), and medics reported that they treated dozens of marchers for heat illnesses.

Michael Dukakis, the 1988 Democratic Party nominee for president, and Jesse Jackson, the civil rights leader and Dukakis' chief rival for the nomination, appeared at the rally on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, where King spoke on Aug. 28, 1963.

Dukakis, who walked the distance between the two monuments with his wife, Kitty, took advantage of the opportunity to criticize the Reagan-Bush administration record on civil rights.

"We must march until racism and anti-semitism and discrimination of all kinds are banished from this land... and we must march until we have an administration in the White House that understands and respects the constitution of the United States," Dukakis said.

Polish leadership admits mistakes

WARSAW, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Poland's communist leaders met today to try to solve the worst labour troubles for seven years which Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner declared were partly caused by government policy mistakes.

Messner acknowledged errors on Saturday, the first day of a plenary meeting of the Communist Party's policy-making central committee called to discuss Poland's biggest strike wave since martial law crushed unrest in 1981.

Western diplomats say the Prime Minister may be dismissed. They expect a leadership reshuffle to be announced at the meeting as a result of the strikes by workers demanding more pay and official recognition of the banned Solidarity trade union.

Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski called at the meeting for a "brave turnaround" in party methods and speakers demanded broad measures to tackle the country's economic and deal with the

unrest. Messner said government economic reforms had included organisational errors and had set out to achieve too many goals at one time. He said the structure of the economy was faulty.

The government has not made clear if the talks will include Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, with whom it has repeatedly refused to negotiate since the movement was banned under martial law. Martial law was lifted in 1983.

Walesa said on Sunday he saw no signs that the communist authorities were starting to back down in the face of the strikers' demands. But he said he stood by his own offer to discuss the unrest with the government.

"I am ready to talk," he said after evading police to climb over a fence and join strikers at the Lenin Shipyard in the northern city of Gdansk, where strikes gave rise to Solidarity in 1980.

"I do not have the impression that the authorities are ready to negotiate," he said.

Bombs miss Syrian Army base

BEIRUT, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Two bombs exploded near a Syrian Army base in West Beirut today afternoon in the second attack in a day aimed against Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Police said two hundred of dynamite sticks exploded in a rubbish pile near the base on the sea-front Manara boulevard. Red Cross volunteers said no one was hurt, although the area was crowded with families out for a Sunday stroll.

Tense Syrian soldiers immediately blocked all approach roads and fired machine guns in the air to clear traffic.

Hours earlier, a rocket slammed into an apartment near a Syrian headquarters building, killing the occupant.

Mohammed Hussein Ali, a lawyer, died instantly when the missile hit his home about 100 metres from the heavily-guarded building in the Ramlet Al Baida.

'Israeli agent' hacked to death

(Continued from Page 1)

said the union had channelled money into the territories from the PLO.

The union was run by Ibrahim Al Khateib, detained since last month without trial.

The press service served the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) group of George Habash, police said. Palestinians said two journalists offered freelance services from the office for the local foreign press.

Police closed a union trade centre in East Jerusalem on Friday.

Confined

The 140,000 residents of the territories who have been confined to their homes included 30,000 residents of Nasserat refugee camp in Gaza where troops wounded at least eight demonstrators overnight.

In the West Bank, the 15,000 Palestinians of Amari and Tulkarm refugee camps remained confined under curfews imposed for 12 consecutive days.

Secret military tribunals set appeals hearings for 25 Palestinians facing expulsion.

Israel has deported 34 suspected activists since the start of the uprising, prompting harsh criticism from the United States, its closest ally, which says suspected troublemakers should be put on trial rather than expelled.

Injured

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told Israel's cabinet today that 5,600 Palestinians had been injured in the uprising and 210 confirmed killed.

An Army spokesman said 197 died after being shot by soldiers. The rest were shot by Jewish settlers or died by other means such as electrocution while placing Palestinian flags on pylons.

A count made by Reuters based on information from Palestinians, security officials and foreign relief workers shows that at least 265 Palestinians and four Israelis have died.

China may buy US copters

BEIJING, Aug. 28, (UPI): China, in a move that could provoke criticism from its neighbours, is considering buying military helicopters from the United States for deployment in a new airborne attack force, according to Chinese and American sources.

The Chinese interest was sufficient to prompt the Boeing Co., the US manufacturer, to rent a transport plane from the US Air Force to ship one of the helicopters to Tibet last month for several weeks of demonstration flights for Chinese officials.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) is considering purchasing up to a dozen updated Boeing CH-47s, the largest helicopter flown by US forces, Chinese sources said.

With each helicopter priced at about \$15 million, it would be one of the largest military deals between the two nations.

Soviets expanding base off Syria

NEW YORK, Aug. 28, (Reuters): The Soviet Union is expanding its military installation on the Syrian coast to serve as a new base for its warships in the Mediterranean, 'New York Times today quoted Reagan administration officials as saying.

It quoted White House, State Department and Defence Department officials as saying they were concerned about new construction at Tartus, Syria which they said coincided with increased Soviet naval operations in the region.

National Security Agency director Rear Admiral William Studeman told Congress in a recent report that the Soviet Navy would be able to repair and maintain its Mediterranean fleet at Tartus, the newspaper said.

'Abolish UN veto system'

NEW DELHI, Aug. 28, (UNA): Indian External Affairs Minister Natwar Singh has suggested that the United Nations Security Council should either abolish the veto system or include major Third World countries as members of the council.

The minister said this would give developing countries the opportunity of having a say in the Security Council.

Inaugurating a symposium on "The Third World and the UN System" Natwar Singh called upon the developing countries to reform the United Nations to democratise it further and rationalise its procedures.

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Solidarity leader Walesa speaks to reporters at the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk where workers are on strike. (Reuter wirephoto)

NEW ENGLISH SCHOOL

JABRIEH, KUWAIT.

The results of the London University G.C.E. "O" level examinations (June 1988) have now arrived in school and are available for collection from the Secondary School Secretary from 9 am - 12 noon daily.

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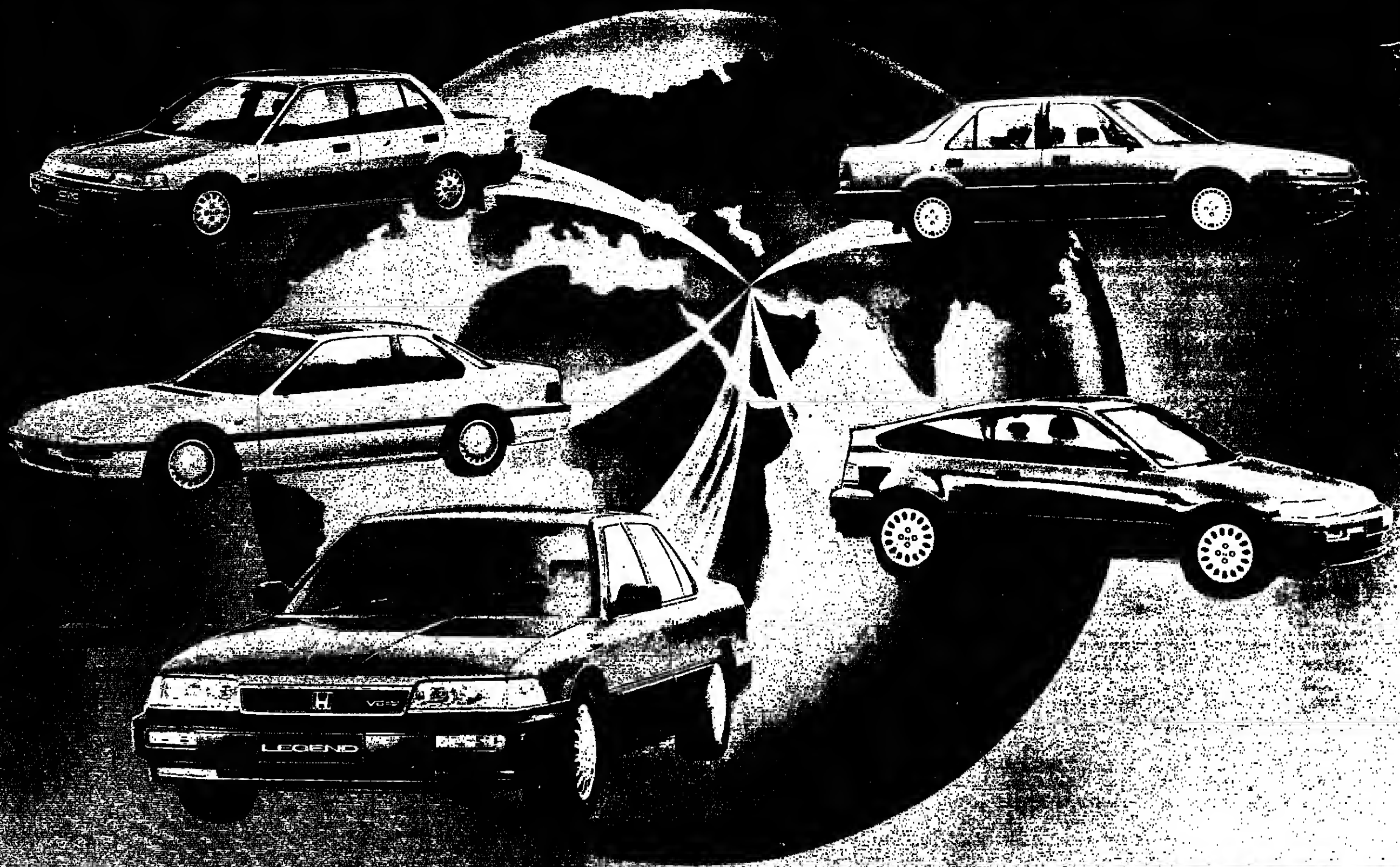
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KUWAIT ... GULF

Sheikh Sabah briefs cabinet on China visit

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed briefed the Council of Ministers yesterday on his trip to China as a member of an Arab League committee.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed said Sheikh Sabah held talks with senior Chinese officials focused on developments in the Gulf war.

Sheikh Sabah described the talks as "positive," and noted that officials also discussed ensuring stability and security in the region, Al Rashed said in a statement to reporters.

Sheikh Sabah also discussed the upcoming GCC Ministerial Council meeting which will be held next Sunday in Riyadh, the statement added.

The cabinet also reviewed a

letter sent recently to HH the Amir by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on the 19th anniversary of the burning of Al Aqsa Mosque.

Then, the statement added, the cabinet discussed the Amir's message as chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference on the issue of Namibia's day at the United Nations.

Topics

Among other topics discussed in yesterday's cabinet meeting, presided over by the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, was the Iran-Iraq peace talks in Geneva.

Al Rashed said the Council of Ministers hopes that "these talks needed results to bring peace to the two neighbours and security in the region."

Meanwhile, Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed spoke about Kuwait's



Sheikh Sabah

recent purchase of 40 F-18 fighter planes from the United States.

The deal, signed Saturday, followed the first official visit by Sheikh Saad to the United States.

Sheikh Nawaf gave details on payment for the equipment and the date of delivery, Al Rashed said.

The cabinet also heard reports from the Minister of Oil Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa and Minister of Trade and Industry Faisal Al Khalid.

Strategy

Al Khalifa also discussed talks he had with OPEC's Secretary-General Shihoro who is in Kuwait to discuss OPEC's strategy for the Ministerial Council that will be held in November.

Al Khalid, who just returned from Turkey, briefed the cabinet on the Turkish-Kuwaiti trade ties and the results of the first meeting of the Kuwaiti-Turkish Joint Committee for Economic, Industrial and Technical Co-operation.

Tareq Aziz meets Kuwaiti envoy

BAGHDAD, Aug 28, (KUNA): Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, heading the Iraqi delegation to the Geneva peace talks with Iran, met there with Kuwait's permanent representative at the UN's European headquarters, Sheikh Salem Jaber Al Sabah, the Iraqi News Agency reported today.

In a dispatch from Geneva, INA said Aziz also met PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, who flew to Geneva yesterday for talks with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the situation in occupied Palestine. Both meetings took place last night.

According to INA, discussions during the two meetings centred on the current UN-sponsored Gulf War peace talks on how to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Aziz and Arafat reportedly also reviewed the nine-month old Palestinian uprising against the Israeli occupation and Jordan's disengagement from the West Bank.



The Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed (centre) and Minister of Oil Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa yesterday visited the Deputy Chief of Staff, Maj. Gen. Jaber Khaled Al Sabah to congratulate him on his recent promotion.

Everyone has a key role to play: Al Nouri

Security of Kuwait emphasised

EDUCATION Minister Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri, addressing a Kuwaiti students conference on security on Saturday, said every individual has a key role to play in protecting Kuwait from threats and dangers, be they internal or external.

"Security is an integral and indivisible matter where every citizen, regardless of his profession, has a key role," he said.

Speech

Al Nouri was delivering a speech on behalf of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah who is sponsoring the five-day conference of the Kuwaiti Student Union.

The conference is meeting under the theme, "For Comprehensive Understanding of the Security Issue."

The slogan of the conference is



Al Nouri

a clear indication that Kuwaiti students are fully aware of Kuwait's and Arab nation's causes, Al Nouri said.

"The security question, in its entirety, must win a priority in the order of our concerns because of its direct link to the advancement of the homeland, the achievement of its aspirations and the maintenance of its interests," said Al Nouri, who is also acting higher education minister.

Hostile

He said all citizens must work together in the face of enemies of the country and those seeking to upset Kuwait's security.

Hostile techniques to intimidate Kuwait have run the gamut from terrorist bomb attacks and aircraft hijacking to fomenting internal rifts and spurring sectarian fanaticism.

Other such techniques included attempts to "neutralise" a segment of Kuwaiti

youths by dragging them into trivial deviations from their country's major issues.

The minister also warned Kuwaiti students against extremism and fanaticism, indicating that they could be the bane of a nation.

Shun

Urging them to follow their pursuit of knowledge, he called on students to shun disputes and to highlight and search for "elements of agreement" between them.

"Let difference in opinion be your way of reaching agreement on what is acceptable to the majority," he recommended.

State Minister for Service Affairs Issa Al Mazidi and a number of senior Kuwaiti University staff members attended the opening of the conference.

Danish foreign minister to visit Kuwait

THE Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark Uffe Ellemann-Jensen will visit Kuwait Sept 3-4.

He has been invited by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Ellemann-Jensen will be accompanied by a trade mission.

Troops will be withdrawn from islands



Maj. Gen. Jaber Khaled

By Faisal Al Qunail

SOME Kuwaiti forces stationed on Kuwait's islands and outlying territories will be withdrawn as soon as the Gulf war comes to a definite end, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Kuwait Army, Major General Jaber Khaled Al Sabah, announced yesterday.

Speaking to a group of Kuwaiti reporters who visited him to congratulate him on his promotion and appointment as Deputy Chief of Staff, Major General Jaber also said that after the withdrawal of Army units, fishermen and other people will be allowed to visit the currently forbidden areas.

Only some points will be maintained for security reasons, he said, stressing that the military units were originally posted to protect the people.

Major General Jaber also noted that the promotions of conscript officers are under study. He added that promotions of regular Army men are proceeding according to the rules.

Head of afforestation committee

THE Council of Ministers has appointed the chairman and director general of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah, as head of the Higher Committee for Afforestation.

The committee includes representatives of several ministries. It is expected to start work soon by implementing the afforestation plans in accordance with the wishes of HH the Amir.

The primary goal of the committee will be to increase the greenery, improve production in the agricultural sector, and beautify Kuwait.

Well-informed sources at the Council of Ministers said that all necessary funds for the afforestation programmes have been sanctioned.

Eye infection

A RESPONSIBLE source at the Ministry of Health announced yesterday that an eye infection known as trachoma affected 15.3 per cent of school children in the last academic year.

The source said that although the ministry took preventive measures, the percentage of infection is still high. This could partially be attributed to doctors who visit schools and do not transfer suspected trachoma cases to main clinics, he said.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Settle Western Sahara dispute

A LEADING Kuwaiti newspaper yesterday said a lasting settlement of the Western Sahara dispute between Morocco and the Polisario front could be achieved through a United Nations' referendum that allows the Sahrawi people to exercise self-determination.

"The solution lies in a common understanding between Algeria, (the supporters of the Polisario) and Morocco, allowing the Sahrawi people freedom of choice on self-determination through a UN referendum," the daily Al Rai Al Aam said editorially.

The paper said many regional flashpoints are being resolved due to an increase in understanding between the superpowers. The Iran-Iraq war, Afghanistan, Namibia disputes are being settled, and the Western Sahara dispute should be no exception, the daily said.

Al Rai Al Aam pointed out that Algeria has been showing moderation as of late, leading to greater understanding between the five Arab Maghreb countries, the rest being Tunisia, Libya, Morocco and Mauritania, on the need to launch a union of the five countries.

"Stage the referendum and show respect for the choice of the Sahrawi people so that this dark leaf in Arab history is turned over and a bright one is opened to launch a fresh stage to build up Arab economic, military and political strength," concluded the paper.

Bishara in Qatar

DOHA, Aug 28, (KUNA): The secretary-general of the Gulf Co-operation Council Abdullah Yagoub Bishara arrived here last night to meet the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani.

"The Qatari" News Agency quoted Bishara as saying that he will brief Sheikh Khalifa on the major issues to be discussed by the Ministerial Council of the

(GCC) in Riyadh on Sept 4. The top GCC official will review with Sheikh Khalifa the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and the role played by the GCC members in establishing peace in the region.

Discussions will also include economic co-operation between the GCC countries until the coming GCC summit in Bahrain.

Kuwait to attend non-aligned meeting

KUWAIT will attend the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers Conference planned for Sept 7-10 in Cyprus.

Kuwait will be represented by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaimeh who will lead a delegation including Kuwait's permanent representative at the United Nations Mohammad Abul Hassan, the director of International Organisations at the ministry Dherar Rezouki and Dhari Al Ajran, a second secretary at the ministry.

Rezouki told KUNA yesterday

that conferees will discuss political and economic issues and resolutions adopted by the organisation's 8th summit held in Harare in 1986.

The ministers will also debate ways to strengthen world peace and security and will fix the date and venue of the 9th summit.

Formal

Nicaragua and Indonesia expressed interest in hosting the forthcoming summit, but conference sources said Kuwait might be a third option if the two countries' request did not receive

the required votes.

The committee of experts will meet for two days before the formal opening of the conference to prepare an agenda.

More than 100 member states and 20 delegates and observers representing international organisations will attend the conference.

Cypriot President George Vassiliou is expected to talk about the Non-Aligned Movement and international and regional issues in the opening speech.

He will be followed by the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe whose country hosted the last summit conference.

Re-unification

Conference sources said the Cypriot Government has high hopes for the conference because it hopes the ministers' will support its efforts for the re-unification of the divided island.

The sources added that two documents highlighting the movement's position on political and economic issues will be adopted at the conference.

Science Club celebrates 14th anniversary

THE Kuwait Science Club celebrated its 14th anniversary last week.

In the last 14 years the club has established itself as one of the bases of science in the country, a responsible source said.

The creation of a modern state and of the modern Kuwaiti go hand-in-hand, he said. We should pay special attention to the country's youth since they will shape Kuwait's future, he added.

Technological developments have increased the responsibility of the club to offer modern scientific education to children, he said.

The club has realised many of its goals, but is still working to achieve more on local, regional and international levels.

The club enjoys the patronage of senior officials of the state, especially HH the Amir and the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Membership has increased considerably.

The club participates in the activities of the Arab Union of Science Clubs and the International Organisation of Scientific and Technological Activities, of which the club is a founder member.

KISR laboratory

A REPORT issued by the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), has shown that the central analysis laboratory of the institute is working to meet the demands of research departments with regard to chemical analysis.

The report showed that the lab is still experiencing some difficulties performing its duties. It called on researchers to provide the lab with accurate information about projects and require analytical services, to co-operate with laboratory staff and to provide them with necessary samples.

Meeting

THE General Director of Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij yesterday received the newly-appointed ambassador to Japan, Abdel Aziz Al Sharekh, and the ambassador to Belgium, Ahmad Al Ibrahim.

NHA to distribute houses and plots

THE National Housing Authority (NHA), is implementing the Third Five-Year Plan aimed at building and distributing 25,000 houses and plots, according to the director general of NHA, Dr Ibrahim Al Shaheen.

The official said that adequate lands have been allocated, and was optimistic that a majority of the units will be completed within the next two years.

The director general said that preparations are under way for the Fourth Five-Year Plan which is scheduled to begin in 1990 and be completed by 1995.

The NHA suffers from shortage of lands to successfully implement the fourth plan, he said. Contacts had been initiated with the Municipality to procure lands to accommodate more than 25,000 housing units. The

problem was also reviewed by the Higher Housing Council, he said.

Al Shaheen said he hopes the new plan will reduce the period citizens have to wait to get government houses, despite the increasing number of applications.

Alternative

He added that the essence of the coming plan is to make optimum use of lands. Officials are considering building flats instead of separate villas. Another alternative is construction of smaller villas. These considerations are being reviewed by the Higher Housing Council, he said.

The official also said that NHA will celebrate Housing Week scheduled for Oct 12, which coincides with the International Housing Day.

Educational Supplies Fair

SALEH Al Harbi, director of public relations at the Kuwait International Fair Co., has been quoted as saying that 34 companies will participate in the fourth Educational Supplies Fair, at the International Fairground in Mishref from Aug 31 to Sept 9.

In a press conference yesterday, Al Harbi said that participants completed preparations for the fair, which will coincide with the start of the new academic year.

The fair will be inaugurated by Abdur-Rahman Al Khodari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education.

Meanwhile, Al Harbi said the company will organise another five fairs before the end of the year, including a gifts fair, a costume fair and the Arab book fair, scheduled from Nov 23 to Dec 3. The company organised 17 exhibitions in 1987.

Abu Halifa lacks essential services

WITH a population of almost 13,050 and beaches which attract residents from all over Kuwait, the Abu Halifa area still lacks fundamental services and utilities, the mukhtar (mayor) and residents say.

The area does not have amenities, such as co-operative societies and good clinics.

Neglected

The police station is only a chalet and the post office is a garage rented by the Ministry of Communications. Supermarkets are non-existent, so residents must buy from small grocery shops which charge high prices for their goods.

Mukhtar Abdullah Mohammed Al Shamlan says the area is neglected even though he has complained to various government departments and ministries.

Residents have repeatedly asked for a pedestrian bridge on the coastal road and have asked the Ministry of Public Works to widen the road connecting Riqab and Abu Halifa to accommodate the increasing volume of traffic from commercial buildings along the road.

Officials promised a long time ago to build a new centre with a police station, clinic, post office, supermarket and other public utilities, but so far, nothing has

been done, Al Shamlan said. However, the Ministry of Public Works has finally agreed to build a secondary school for girls, he said.

Oldest

A resident of the area, Naser Khaled Al Jaber, says that Abu Halifa and Shuaiba are the oldest areas in the tenth district. He said that other areas like Sabahiya, Riqab and Fahabeh, which were established in the last 20 years, all have services, but unfortunately, Abu Halifa is still neglected. The area still does not have a complete electric lighting system, he said. He suggested the formation of a council in the area to represent the residents and push for their needs.

'Dead girl' still alive

A SIX-YEAR-OLD girl who was reported to have died Tuesday after falling into a swimming pool in the Dasm area is alive and in good health. The girl became unconscious after the incident, and was taken to Amiri Hospital. She was discharged from the hospital yesterday afternoon after treatment.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Ports Public Authority has a vacancy for an Operations Superintendent

Applicant should meet the following qualifications and requirements.

1. A University Degree (preferably in Marine Studies or Business Administration).
2. Good command of Arabic & English (reading, spoken and written).
3. Not less than 27 years of age.
4. Having at least 2 years' experience as "Operations Superintendent" or holding Foreign Going certificate with minimum 2 years service on board ships.
5. Familiar in Container Handling on several types of ships + at least 2 years' experience in Container Handling by using Gantry Cranes and in administration of Heavy equipment used in Container Handling i.e. trailers and cranes etc.
6. Knowledge of Industrial Safety Systems applied on ships and equipment of Cargo Handling.
7. Ready to work in P.P.A. Ports according to applicable work shifts.
8. Grade & Salary will be decided in the light of qualifications and years of experience.

Priority will be given to Kuwaitis and then to Arab nationals and foreigners residing in Kuwait. Candidates can apply on special forms available at Appointment/Administration in Shuaiba Port. Copies of qualifications, experience certificates and passport as well as 4 x 6 photo should be attached to applications.

Director General Ports Public Authority

The head and doctors of the Paediatrics Department at

Al Amiri Hospital express their heartfelt condolences to their colleague

Dr. Winston on the sad demise of his

Mother

May her soul rest in peace

General held for ordering attack on Seoul editor

SEOUL, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Military investigators have detained a South Korean general for ordering an attack on a journalist who criticised the Army, state radio reported today.

Oh Hong-Kuen, city editor of the Joonggang Economic Daily, wrote that the Army was the source of many of the country's problems. He is still in hospital after being stabbed in the leg by a four-man team led by a major three weeks ago.

The four have been arrested. Detained Brigadier-General Lee Kyu-Hong, commander of an Army intelligence unit, admitted ordering his men to assault the journalist, the Korea Broadcasting System said.

An Army spokesman declined comment on the report.

Political commentators said the Aug 6 attack could lead to the sacking of Defence Minister Oh Ja-Bok. Oh heads security operations for the Seoul Olympics, which open in 20 days.

The radio said another brigadier-general from Army intelligence headquarters was being questioned on charges that he tried to cover-up the assault.

The military earlier this week said the four men were solely responsible for the attack but promised to continue investigating after pressure from members of parliament.

Police said they were also questioning a Korean resident of Japan for trying to smuggle four pistols into South Korea.

Police were investigating if the man had connections with terrorist groups who might try to disrupt next month's Olympics in Seoul, police officials said.



Aquino watches two women soldiers lay a wreath on the Tomb of Unknown Soldier during the National Heroes' Day ceremony at a suburban military camp in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fears of another coup bid dispelled

Aquino honours soldiers

MANILA, Aug. 28. (UPI): President Corason Aquino celebrated her first full year without a serious military challenge to her authority today by honouring soldiers who died defending her government in last year's bloody Aug 28 coup attempt.

The year of relative stability followed a string of five major coup attempts and several other plots during the first 18 months of her administration.

Speaking at a suburban military camp on the Philippine's National Heroes Day, Aquino paid tribute to "the soldiers and officers who fought and gave their lives to defend the state... and to uphold the democracy that is its soul."

"They fell on this day last year

in the greatest battle waged to defend our democracy," Aquino said. "That battle separated the chaff from the grain, the traitors... from the soldiers of the republic."

Disgruntled soldiers led by Col Gregorio Honasan staged the fifth and gravest attempt to overthrow the Aquino government Aug. 28, 1987, resulting in the deaths of 53 soldiers and civilians and the wounding of more than 300 people, including Aquino's only son.

Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos dispelled fears of another coup bid as the military went on full alert this morning, a routine procedure in advance of Aquino's scheduled departure Monday for a three-day visit to Brunei.

"She can do all the things she wants to do and she can come back here and find the country safe and secure," Ramos said.

Meanwhile, Honasan relaxed in a chauffeur-driven car that cruised around Manila and said

he would continue to fight to oust President Aquino.

Last night, the eve of the first anniversary of his nearly successful coup attempt, Honasan said he was working on winning new recruits.

The 40-year-old spoke to a reporter in a car that was driven around the capital, where 13,000 troops were on full alert over coup rumours.

"A coup is always a possibility when there's a good chance of success and proper timing. When we have enough forces in our inventory, we will definitely make a try for it but that will be supportive of a political move."

Headed: "Anything can happen. It may be bloody, it may be peaceful. All of sudden, Cory (Aquino) might step down."

Honasan said his group might "gravitate (to) but not really align" with the new opposition coalition announced on Saturday by Vice President Salvador Laurel, if it abandoned "political manoeuvring."

Egypt backs Indonesia

CAIRO, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Egypt said today it supported Indonesia's bid to become chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement when it meets in Cyprus next month.

"The Non-Aligned Movement will be in good hands with Indonesia," Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid told reporters after a meeting between President Hosni Mubarak and Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas.

Alatas, who arrived on Saturday for a three-day visit ahead of the Sept 5 meeting of Non-Aligned foreign ministers, said he handed Mubarak a message from President Suharto on bilateral ties and co-ordination at the Nicosia meeting.

He said he exchanged views with Mubarak on relations between Cairo and Jakarta, both founding members of the 101-

member movement, and thanked him for his support.

Abdel Maguid, who will have more talks with Alatas to prepare for the Cyprus meeting, said Egypt and Indonesia had identical views on international issues.

Foreign ministers of the 101 member states of the Non-Aligned group are to meet Sept 5-10 in Nicosia, Cyprus. Indonesia and Egypt along with Yugoslavia and India co-founded the Non-Aligned Movement, which held its inaugural conference in 1960 in Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital.

Indonesian officials in Jakarta said Alatas' current tour is to drum up support for Indonesia's bid to host the next Non-Aligned summit in 1989. The host country ordinarily chairs the Non-Aligned group for three years until the next summit is held.

Students relaunch banned union

Burma faces total anarchy

RANGOON, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Burmese students today defiantly declared the reformation of their disbanded union and the country's leading opposition figure warned Burma was on the brink of anarchy.

Aung Gyi, released last week after nearly a month in jail for his opposition activities, told Reuters in an interview: "We are on the verge of anarchy. The situation is almost out of control."

Tens of thousands of students gathered at Rangoon University and declared unilaterally that their union, banned after the 1962 military coup, was reformed, and said the university would reopen on Monday.

Rangoon has been rife with reports of looting and arson after troops and police were withdrawn from the streets following weeks of demonstrations to force the socialist leaders to concede to multi-party democracy.

Aung Gyi, a 69-year-old retired brigadier said: "Time is running out. The government must act quickly to give the people democracy."

Rangoon residents said law and order had virtually broken down. Neighbourhood watch groups provide the only security.

Newspapers reappeared on the streets after a three-day absence, reporting opposition activities under a new-found freedom from the party line.

Residents said petrol supplies in the capital of three million people were virtually finished and food transport had broken down.

Aung Gyi said he feared food riots and more looting, particularly of rice, the staple food of the impoverished country's 38 million people.

The government under President Maung Maung has said it backs a referendum to determine if the people want a multi-party democracy after 26 years of socialism which has taken Burma from being one of Asia's premier rice exporters to one of the world's poorest nations.

The move by the students, who have spearheaded the revolt, to proclaim a new student union to mastermind the fight for democracy was the first major

step to unify popular dissent. They elected a committee to fight for democracy, the first overt student group since former strong-man ruler Ne Win banned student unions in 1964.

The prospect of a unified opposition posed a major new threat to the government facing mass demands for its leaders to step down.

Aung Gyi, who was alongside Ne Win in the 1962 coup but who fell out with his mentor a year later, said the government's proposed timetable for a referendum leading to democratic general elections would take too long to satisfy the people.

He ruled himself out as a leader of any interim government. "I don't want to lead it. I'm too old and I have a heart ailment," he said.

The campus rally indicated that students were prepared to move more into the open, but identities of the executive committee members were not revealed and little was known about the union leader although his name has been affixed to many anti-government pam-

phlets in recent weeks.

"We must carry on with unity and diligence and without resorting to violence until our goal for the revival of democracy in the country is achieved," Min Ko Naing said. "We are fighting for democracy and we are not interested in participating in the government."

He said after democracy was won, a national student convention would be held to elect a permanent leadership for the union.

Underground students unions began to operate about three years ago and students — their faces masked to prevent identification by authorities — were at the forefront of bloody, anti-government demonstrations last March and June.

They were on the streets again last month. Many were surprised at their ability to organise and motivate tens of thousands of protesters. Swedish Burma scholar Bertil Linter described their organisational style as "elastic and fluid, based on trust and secrecy" to prevent the kind of infiltration by security services which decimated activist ranks in the past.

Afghan rebels step up attacks

Rockets hit Kabul airport

ISLAMABAD, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Afghan guerrillas blasted Kabul airport with more than 20 rockets at the weekend, apparently damaging at least one of the main runways, a Western diplomat said today.

According to one unconfirmed report an AN-12 transport aircraft was destroyed on the ground in Saturday's attack.

Quoting reports from envoys in the Afghan capital, the Islamabad-based diplomat said the first rockets struck the airport in mid-afternoon and the attack lasted about two hours.

Aircraft parked in the target area were moved to safer areas while others scrambled to counter-attack guerrilla positions in hills a few miles southeast of the airport.

At least one of the runways

appeared to have been damaged, said the diplomat, but he was unable to confirm whether this would affect flights.

The Soviet news agency Tass reported on Saturday that rockets fired into Kabul city had killed four people but made no mention of an attack on the airport.

Muslim guerrillas were holding two Afghan provincial capitals and were battling the communist regular Army for two others, according to reports received today.

Official Radio Kabul said government forces had to "change the status of their deployment" in central Bamayan province following several days of fighting with

"extremists and war-mongering elements."

Rebel leaders and Western diplomats in Islamabad reported that Bamayan city, 120 kilometres northwest of Kabul, fell to the guerrillas early last week.

In northern Takhar province, the capital of Taloqan has been in guerrilla hands since the Soviets on Aug 15 reached the halfway point of their phased pullout from Afghanistan.

At that time, the insurgents also overran Kunduz city in neighbouring Kunduz province, but government forces, with heavy Soviet air support, wrested the city back days later, according to combined reports.

The rebels have since laid siege to Kunduz and the southeastern provincial capital of Kandahar.

Israeli police hunt escaped murderer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Aug. 28. (AP): Police launched a nationwide search today for a triple murderer who escaped from a maximum-security prison after he smuggled a gun into his jail cell and hijacked a prison van, taking two guards hostage, a prison spokesman said.

The prisoner, Herzl Avitan, was serving a double life sentence for two murders, one of a prison official. He was imprisoned in the top security section of Beer-sheva prison in the southern Negev Desert, awaiting sentencing for a third killing.

Police erected roadblocks throughout the Negev after Avitan's escape yesterday,

mobilising hundreds of forces to provide protection for judges who ruled against him, said Johnnie Tester, prison authority spokesman.

Security forces urged the public to be wary and warned he was armed and dangerous. "If he gets stuck in a situation where he has to kill someone, he won't hesitate, and he had threatened a lot of people," David Kraus, Israel's chief police commissioner, told Israel Radio.

Avitan escaped yesterday afternoon after feigning illness during his daily walk and being returned to his cell, Ya'akov Arviv, a prison guard taken hos-

tage for several hours, told the radio.

"We opened the door to his cell and there he was with a gun," said Arviv, who arrived at the cell with a medic and another guard. He said he cooperated with Avitan because "when there's a gun held up against you, either you do what he says or you go to the next world."

Avitan tied up the medic and one guard, then ordered Arviv to radio for a van with a driver. The prisoner commanded the van to break through the prison gate and drive toward Beer-sheva, where he released the two hostages and disappeared, Arviv said.

Soviet-Afghan joint venture in space

MOSCOW, Aug. 28. (Reuters): The first Afghan space traveller blasts off with two Soviet cosmonauts on Monday in a joint venture shifting co-operation between the two countries from the battlefields of earth to the cosmos.

The nine-day mission to the MIR space station will blast off from the Baikonur launchpad in Soviet Central Asia and is expected to be televised live.

One of the crew, a Soviet physician, will remain aboard MIR until Dec 21, when cosmonaut Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov are due to complete their year-long mission and set a new space endurance record, space officials told Reuters.

"The doctor will remain in space until the end of the mission," an official of the Glavkosmos space authority said. He said the other two visitors would return on Sept 6.

Two Soviet-Afghan crews have been in final training at Baikonur since Aug 18. Barring last-minute changes, Soviet pilot Vladimir Lyakhov, physician Valery Polyakov and Afghan space researcher Abdul Ahad Mohmand will make the flight.

Lyakhov, 47, is a space veteran with two previous lengthy missions to his credit. In 1979, he spent more than five months aboard the Salyut-6 space station and in 1983 was launched to Salyut-7, MIR's forerunner, for a 150-day stay.

Polyakov, 46, is making his first space flight and will have the task of monitoring the health of Titov and Manarov.

More relief aid airlifted to Sudan

KHARTOUM, Aug. 28. (UPI): Belgian, Saudi, Egyptian and Libyan transport planes today began an emergency airlift of food and medical supplies to isolated areas of Sudan struck by the country's worst ever flooding.

A government spokesman said a Belgian military transport began a planned 5-day shuttle of relief supplies to the hard hit northern town of Merowe, and the other foreign aircraft began similar missions inside Khartoum province and central Sudan.

The government committee running the emergency operation which follows torrential rains since Aug 4 that left more than 1.5 million people destitute and homeless nationwide, said the north would be given top priority for incoming international aid.

A Red Cross aerial survey last week showed the Nile Valley between Athara and Dongola, 500 km northwest of the capital, was badly hit by floodwater and up to 100,000 people without food or medical supplies were homeless and trapped by the water.

Around 25 per cent of all houses were destroyed in the region, the survey showed.

The situation further north is thought just as critical with dozens of once inhabited islands

in the river submerged under water.

The state news agency SUNA said Badien island, near Dongola, disappeared under the flood and up to 50,000 people were made homeless there alone, the agency said.

SUNA said proper casualty figures were not available but there were many deaths from drowning and from bites from snakes and scorpions driven into the open by the floodwater.

Much of the north is now only reachable from the air and the government has declared the whole area between the 6th Nile cataract, 90 km north of Khartoum to the Egyptian border at Wadi Halfa a disaster-stricken area.

Similar floods cover hundreds of square miles of farmland south of Khartoum on the Blue Nile below the big roseires and sennar dams. The river has spilled over into low-lying areas of the city centre and western suburbs of the capital are under water from the White Nile.

Meanwhile Fadlallah Ali Fadlallah, spokesman for the government relief committee said today that censorship on foreign and local press reports of the flood crisis, briefly imposed last week, was lifted and would not be re-introduced.

Thai way of losing weight

BANGKOK, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Hundreds of fat Thais have taken to sticking lettuce seeds in their ears in the firm conviction that it will help them lose weight.

The Yan Hee Polyclinic, run by Supote Samritvanitcha, instructs obese patients that if they press the seeds in their ears 10 times before meals it will kill their hunger.

The hard seeds are attached with a plaster near a nerve pressure point in the ear in a system similar to acupuncture but

without its risk of infection. Dr Supote's waiting room is crammed every day with more than 100 corpulent hopefuls anxious to try out his weight-loss method. Patients say it works, although some think the accompanying appetite-suppressing medicine the doctor prescribes may be even more efficacious.

The treatment is cheap, but Dr Supote warns patients the seeds must be replaced every weeks or they will soften and could germinate.

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Thought for today

WHEN you have got a thing where you want it, it is a good thing to leave it where it is — Sir Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965).

Dissent growing against Lee's rule

By Arthur Richards

SINGAPORE, (UPI): Amid rumours of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's imminent retirement, the only question in Singapore's Sept. 13 election is how his party will win.

Lee's Peoples' Action Party undoubtedly will retain the power it has held uninterrupted since 1959. But this election, called 14 months ahead of schedule, could demonstrate the strength of the growing dissent against Lee's iron-fisted rule.

"This is truly a watershed election," said Lee. "Our party is fighting to put into parliament a group of members young and strong enough to see Singapore through to the year 2000."

In the past year the government has stamped down hard on critics by invoking the Internal Security Act to jail opponents without trial, restricting the circulation of foreign publications whose coverage it found unpalatable and skimming the diplomatic and economic fronts with the United States, its main trading partner and ally.

Praise Many Singaporeans still praise Lee for the economic miracle which transformed the city-state from a British colonial backwater to a bustling, booming economic and financial centre.

But analysts say the burgeoning middle class feels pummeled and could turn to the much-maligned opposition in protest.

"The PAP is the only party capable of governing Singapore," a Western diplomat said, "but it has become increasingly intolerant to criticism, and the mood among young people is that they want liberal economic and political policies, something new that they can participate in."

PAP candidates have no opponents for 11 of the 81 parliamentary seats. But an assortment of opposition parties is contesting a record 70 seats.

"The fact that there are so many opposition candidates goes to show that the people of Singapore want change," said Chiam See Tong of the Singapore Democratic Party, who is the lone current opposition member of parliament. "They want more rights, which the PAP has taken away from them."

Hong Kong's latest export: people

By Michael Di Cicco

HONG KONG, (UPI): The latest export boom in Hong Kong is people — those who have decided to get out before the British colony reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

Like any other boom, this one is accompanied by a similar increase in firms hoping to help emigrants — or to help relieve them of their savings.

On the legitimate level, this auxiliary industry will handle everything from filling out forms, securing overseas homes, loans and even selecting schools in a new country.

The quality of emigration counseling varies from the over-enthusiastic advertisements that clog local newspapers to discreet assistance from some of the largest financial institutions in the world.

"You would never see an emigration advertisement from us," said Amy Shum, an assistant vice-president of Royal Trust, the largest financial trust in Canada.

Protest "We want to partner with only the right people," she said. "We want to protect our clients' investment and our own."

"Many times it's the client's first trip out of the country and they need a lot of hand-holding," she said.

Since Shum's clients are more likely to buy a shopping mall than purchase items in one, hand-holding is in order. For a 5 per cent commission on investments and various charges for specific services, the Royal Trust sets up a package including investing clients' money, getting them a job, buying a house, opening a savings account, getting a car loan and devising an insurance package for their family.

The firm refers services like filling out forms and advice on applying for immigration to selected lawyers like Victor Yang, a partner in a Vancouver law firm.

"Many of our clients would rather not have their secretaries

gapore Democratic Party, who is the lone current opposition member of parliament. "They want more rights, which the PAP has taken away from them."

One opposition candidate given a good chance of winning is attorney Francis Seow, released recently after 72 days in prison without trial for allegedly colluding with US officials in helping to recruit legal and business professionals to run against the PAP.

The dominant PAP was shaken by its unprecedented 12-point vote fall, to 63 per cent, the last election in December, 1984. It has been working hard to ensure what Lee called a "fluke result" does not recur.

Since then the election system has been drastically revised into 13 "group representation constituencies," each with three candidates, at least one of whom must be from minority Malay or Indian populations.

Retired PAP retired 14 members of parliament, expanded the house to 81 seats and has promised a more open style of government.

Lee, who turns 65 Sept. 16, is widely expected to step down after the election and run for president — provided the election outcome meets his expectations and he is satisfied his chosen successor, Goh Chok Tong, and the new generation can guarantee to safeguard the island nation's wealth and stability.

His proposal to expand the powers of the largely ceremonial presidency, making it an elected office with veto power over spending the country's \$16 billion foreign reserves and top civil service appointments will be a contentious election issue.

Even PAP office-holders have criticized the plan for giving the president too much power at the expense of parliament.

Reaganism "The PAP is preaching the politics of feeling good about yourself, which is pure Reaganism, and the current prosperity must affect the voters' mood," a Western analyst said.

"But the trouble is that they have very few outstanding candidates."

New policy fails to achieve its goal

Israel changes tack to quell uprising

By David Alexander

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (UPI): The Israeli military has given up on the idea of crushing the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, instead hoping to simply limit violence until "the residents sober up."

The policy, which involves bureaucratic harassment as well as harsh use of the military, however, has not been able to prevent a new rash of unrest, the worst since April.

The Army has repeatedly closed schools, detained tax dodgers and rigorously enforced cumbersome administrative requirements, including business licences. In addition, thousands of Palestinians demanding their own nation have been arrested to lower the level of violence and eliminate civil disobedience that could cause further unrest.

However, the tactics of hitting Palestinians in their pocket-books may be backfiring. The uprising, which started in December in the streets and was

mainly limited to radical youths, has expanded to pull in most Palestinians, especially the moderate middle class.

Military Chief of Staff Dan Shomron told Israeli newspapers recently, "we can bring about a situation in which violence is reduced and we can live with it and maintain this state until the residents (in the occupied territories) sober up."

Violence But Shomron's recipe for handling the intifada, Arabic for uprising, over the long term also requires a tough Israeli Army response to minor acts of violence and civil disobedience.

"We must see to it that a situation never arises in which an (Army) force enters some locality and retreats because the intifada is stronger, they have made the intifada base wider," said Nicola Canavati, a moderate Christian Arab businessman in Bethlehem.

The protesters say each new Israeli act of force invigorates the uprising. Israel shows its weak-

ness when soldiers and tax collectors raid villages, detaining hundreds of residents and subjecting them to various forms of harassment to coerce them to pay back taxes, the Palestinians say.

Resurgence

This month there has been a resurgence of violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Israeli forces have occupied since 1967, with an average of one death a day, including five in the last two days.

While the Army has moved against various forms of dissent, Palestinians in the territories say they view each new crackdown as victory — a sign of Israeli weakness, not strength.

"The Israelis made a big mistake by following up on every big and small item. They have made the intifada stronger, they have made the intifada base wider," said Nicola Canavati, a moderate Christian Arab businessman in Bethlehem.

The protesters say each new Israeli act of force invigorates the uprising. Israel shows its weak-

ness when soldiers and tax collectors raid villages, detaining hundreds of residents and subjecting them to various forms of harassment to coerce them to pay back taxes, the Palestinians say.

Taxes

They say it unifies them when the civilian administration that governs the territories imposes new auto taxes or orders hospitals not to admit patients injured during the revolt unless they pay in advance.

"We can't do anything with the people and they want to get people like us to do it for them," a Palestinian doctor who has refused to bar patients said in Ramallah.

Nearly every Palestinian has been touched in some way by the uprising.

"The uprising is done by the whole people of the West Bank, not just one person," Canavati said. "They say, 'where are the leaders (of the uprising)?' everybody in the West Bank is a leader... 1.6 million Palestinians are the headquarters."

Burma copes with Ne Win's legacy

By Denis D. Gray

BANGKOK, Thailand, (AP): Anti-government demonstrators marching through Burma's cities may not all agree on what they want, but there's little dispute over what they oppose: the legacy of Gen. Ne Win, who ruled Burma for a quarter-century and left the nation poor, isolated and undemocratic.

Ne Win once decried military interference in politics, but then led a coup in 1962 that toppled Burma's civilian democracy. Twenty-six years later, military men have gunned down unarmed protesters to maintain the military's authoritarian grip on the country.

After his coup, Ne Win vowed that socialism would bring prosperity, allowing each man to buy at least four sarongs a year. Today, Burma, potentially one of Asia's most prosperous nations, is among the world's poorest.

Like many necessities, the simple sarong-like "longyi" worn by most males has become a luxury item in the wake of an overall 1,500 per cent increase in prices since Ne Win's coup. Wages have risen a mere 35 per cent.

Promises With the price of a longyi now equivalent to a month's wage for the average Burmese, Ne Win's promise of four sarongs a year has been relegated to a pile of other failed promises about Ne Win and his system.

Some analysts maintain that Ne Win, who retired last month at the age of 77 following widespread street disorders, is still pulling the political strings in Burma. Mass demonstrations continue in the country, directed at tearing down his political and economic structure.

Others believe Ne Win, ailing and perhaps shaken by the course of events, has truly retired.

But in either case, the legacy he left — one-party rule, isolationism, a failure to stem ethnic insurgencies and his "Burmese way to socialism" — could be difficult to dismantle.

Scholars give some credit to Ne Win, who tried to maintain an egalitarian society, established free education and health services, and tried to prevent exploitation of his country by foreign companies and dependence on outside economic forces.

But many of these policies were imperfectly executed, creat-

ing new problems of their own. After his retirement, Ne Win was succeeded by former General Sein Lwin, hated by many for his brutal repression of opponents, and later by civilian lawyer Maung Maung.

Both are Ne Win loyalists, but Maung Maung has offered signs of change in response to the political unrest.

Under his leadership, the government has released 2,500 people arrested during the turmoil this summer. He also called for a referendum on replacing the authoritarian one-party government with a multi-party system.

Josef Silverstein, a leading American Burma scholar, says effecting "miracle solutions" to Burma's myriad problems "would require the men in power to abandon the system and sack themselves."

The latest group of leaders has promised wide-ranging economic reforms in an apparent effort to appease demonstrators. But part of Ne Win's legacy is skepticism about the government's word: past promises of reforms — including some donors to major foreign aid donors — either weren't kept or proved cosmetic.

Pain "Twenty-six years in vain, 26 years of pain," said one recent poster on a Rangoon wall.

Dismantling Ne Win's political legacy would mean dissolving the 1.1-million-member Burma Socialist Programme Party and an array of institutions, from the village level up, created to support the sole power centre. It would also mean reducing the power of the military, where two generations of officers have profited from Ne Win's system.

"The armed forces took power against my most cherished principles. The power must be returned to the people where it rightfully belongs," Ne Win asserted in 1966, four years after the military coup. In 1974, rule by military oligarchy was replaced by a formal government structure, but one totally dominated by retired or active duty officers.

At the apex of this system stood Ne Win — charming, ruthless, and cunning, maintaining what many analysts say was a greater hold on power than virtually any of the world's dictatorial figures. Outright opponents were jailed or fled the country. A half-dozen rising stars within his own ranks — from vice chief of staff Kyaw Zaw in 1957 to Brigadier Tin Oo in 1983 — were dismissed or imprisoned.

CONGRESSMAN — THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF CHARGES MADE ABOUT THE AGENCY RECENTLY



SPECIFICALLY THAT WE'RE TRYING TO SABOTAGE THE PEACE PROCESS IN CENTRAL AMERICA



THAT ALLEGATION IS COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED AND UNTRUE



WE LEAVE THAT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT



Truman took revolutionary steps to help blacks

By Nicholas C. McBride

WASHINGTON: Forty years ago last month President Harry S. Truman ordered the United States Army into battle with itself.

Executive Order 9801 called for "equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, colour, religion, or national origin."

The step was revolutionary. America was still a segregated society. In the South, lynchings were common and black disenfranchisement was the norm. The military reflected that society. Blacks served their country as cooks, stewards, and labourers.

Things have improved since then. Today blacks — roughly 12 per cent of the US population — make up 19.6 per cent of the active-duty force, including 21.7 per cent of enlisted personnel and 6.6 per cent of the active-duty force, including 21.7 per cent of enlisted personnel and 6.6 per cent in the officer ranks.

Nonetheless, in the military's "white collar" classifications blacks tend to fill clerical rather than technical jobs, and in its "blue collar" classifications whites are more likely to be trained as craftsmen while minorities are clustered in service, supply or "general military skills," which includes combat roles.

Casualties According to Charles Moskos, a sociologist at Northwestern University and an expert in military manpower, today's all-volunteer force relies more heavily on blacks and poor whites than did the draft-era military. He says that if the United States were involved in a major conventional conflict, the burden of battle — and of casualties — in the early stages would fall on minorities.

An analysis prepared for the Joint Centre for Political Studies in Washington by Army Lt Col Felix Peterson attributes heavy black casualties in Vietnam in 1965-66 to the disproportionate numbers of blacks in the infantry and artillery.

In 1965 blacks comprised 12.8 per cent of the overall Army personnel but 14.9 per cent of these combat troops. In 1966 blacks were 11.3 per cent of the Army but 17.2 per cent of these units. Black casualties jumped from 7.6 per cent of all casualties in 1964 to 20.7 in 1965. (For the entire war, however, black deaths were a more equitable 13 per cent of

total deaths. Today black men comprise 28.2 per cent of the total enlisted Army force, while black women number 44.3 per cent of enlisted women.

"Blacks are attracted to the military because of what I call the push-pull factor," says Mark J. Eitelberg, professor at the Naval Postgraduate School. "The push of unemployment and the pull of benefits. And the military offers a lot, job training they couldn't get anywhere else."

Died Blacks served — and died — in every conflict since the revolution. But when peace was restored, so was blacks' status quo of second-class citizenship. This was true, despite blacks' contribution to the war effort during World War II, when Truman issued his executive order.

By changing the status quo in the military, Truman had set in motion the force that would help reform society as a whole.

"There is irony in the fact that the military, generally perceived as a highly conservative institution, led the nation in adopting and implementing the principle of equal opportunity," says

Edwin Dorn of the Joint Centre for Political Studies.

At the beginning of World War II, the Army had a 10 per cent ceiling on black enlistments, the Navy admitted blacks only as mess stewards, and the Marine Corps was exclusively white.

The Army had five black officers, and three of them were chaplains," Dr Dorn says.

Minor changes took place because of pressure from civil rights leaders such as William Hastie, the race-relations adviser to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson. Yet Hastie resigned when blacks in the Army Air Corps were sent to segregated training at Tuskegee Institute.

The Truman order was a long-awaited spark, but it kindled no overnight results. Blacks continued to be placed in low-level jobs and segregated units. Black officers and noncoms could not command whites.

The executive order was "purposely vague," Dorn says. It was strong enough to garner the black vote and weak enough to fend off negative reaction from the segregationists in Congress known as "Dixiecrats."

Bush tries to stir emotions

By Bernd Debusmann

HOUSTON, Texas, (Reuters): Vice-President George Bush is attempting to stir the emotions of the voters by portraying his Democratic opponent in November's presidential election as an unpatriotic American who is soft on crime and communism.

According to Bush, Michael Dukakis does not want American children to begin their school day with a pledge of allegiance to the US flag.

Instead, he wants to deprive their parents of the right to carry arms while allowing convicted murderers to enjoy weekend leave breaks from prison. The Bush campaign says that Dukakis would even accept a Soviet base close to the United States.

There is no accurate gauge of the relative effectiveness of Bush's attacks, but some members of his campaign staff feel that their portrayal of Dukakis' attitude on the pledge of allegiance arouses suspicions across the political spectrum.

"That issue is a winner for us," said Craig Fuller, Bush's chief of staff.

Vetoed

The issue dates back to 1977, when Dukakis — during his first term as governor of Massachusetts — vetoed a bill that would have required teachers to lead children in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

The pledge, dear to the hearts of most Americans, says: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Dukakis says that he favoured the bill but bowed to an advisory ruling by the supreme court of Massachusetts which said the proposed legislation would be unconstitutional.

Now, Bush defies the pledge as one of the chief differences between himself and Dukakis. "I believe in the pledge of allegiance," he told a cheering crowd in the Texas town of Longview this week. "My opponent does not. What's his problem with the pledge?"

Political analyst Robert Novak told Cable Network News (CNN) that: "It (the pledge issue) may be a phoney issue but it is an issue Bush is making hay of."

So is gun control, a topic that has featured in every Bush speech since the convention. "My opponent favours gun control. I oppose it," says the vice-president.

"Let that Duke (Dukakis) come here and take my pistol away," said Thomas Henehan, a construction worker at the Longview rally. "I'll show him what my rights are."

Dukakis' campaign staff, aware of the emotional undertones of the gun control debate, issued a statement this week saying he favoured the right of hunters to carry rifles and the right of "law-abiding citizens" to keep weapons at home.

Bush uses the example of a convicted murderer who raped a woman and held her family hostage while on a weekend break from a Massachusetts prison to imply that his opponent is soft on crime.

Thirty-nine other states, including several with Republican governors, have similar programmes which allow prisoners to take weekend breaks from prison.

Bush points to his support for military aid to Nicaragua's Contra rebels fighting the left-wing Sandinista government as proof that he is determined to defend freedom and democracy at home and abroad.

Belfast yearning for normalcy

By Marcus Ellason

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, (AP): Belfast threw a party the other night, with jugglers and jazz bands and balloons that said "Belfast is buzzing."

There were also armoured cars around, and armed police in bullet-proof vests, but even a car bomb on Tuesday was "enough to keep some 80,000 townspeople away from what was officially dubbed 'Belfast's big night out'."

The resilience of Northern Ireland people has again been shown. The Irish News, the province's largest Catholic daily, exulted Friday.

Anywhere else in Britain, a late-summer street festival would have been nothing extraordinary. But in Belfast, whose heart was ripped out by bombings in the 1970s, Thursday night's festivities reflected a deep yearning for normalcy.

Across the province, in Omagh, 2,000 people gathered to mourn eight British soldiers killed by an Irish Republican Army car bomb last Saturday. But Belfast went its merry way. As organizer Bryan Walliker remarked in an interview: "You just can't keep a good Belfast man down."

Even as workers were still boarding up the shattered windows of Windsor House, scene of Tuesday's IRA car bomb, music was blaring around the corner in the warren of pedestrian malls where Belfast folk like to spend their money.

The occasion was the sixth anniversary of what has become a symbol of Belfast's rejuvenation — late night shopping. Since 1982, when the explosions died down and the traders poked their heads above their bomb-roofed barricades, shops in the city centre have stayed open until 9pm every Thursday.

It began as something of a gamble. People weren't used to venturing out at night, and buses suspended service at sundown.

Late night shopping proved a hit. Hundreds of bars, restaurants and shops have sprung up in the centre. Marks and Spencer, the department store chain, reports its Belfast branch is its second-busiest in Britain and overall, the daily cash intake is estimated to be 40 per cent

higher on late night shopping days.

So successful is late night shopping that from next week it is to be extended to Tuesdays as well.

One reason may be that the city centre has always been regarded as neutral territory, away from the ghettos that are divided on religious lines.

In the centre, away from the gunfire and sectarian stone-throwing fights that are an integral feature of ghetto night-life, Protestants and Catholics become indistinguishable and can get on with spending money.

Tuesday's car bomb caused no casualties, but nonetheless, the festival turnout was slightly lower than last year, said David Robertson, a department store chief, although he added that this could have been because rain was forecast.

"After the car bomb we were a bit edgy, but we've always believed that we have got to be as normal as possible under the circumstances," said Robertson, who experienced six car bombs and six fire-bombs around his store in the 1970s.

"But anything the terrorists have tried to do has been defeated by this desire for normality," he said in an interview.

The rain held off, and Belfast became an exuberant cacophony of screaming seagulls, marching bagpipers, pomp-and- circumstance bands, and a jazz quintet led by an elderly Ulsterman crooning "Blueberry Hill" as a drunk danced amiably with himself to applause from the crowds.

Around the corner, huge crowds watched a stunt driver speeding about blindfolded — an act guaranteed to touch a familiar chord in a city where joyriding, madcap races in stolen cars, is a daily scourge. There was a cowboy doing lasso tricks and a daredevil climb down a burning rope suspended from a crane.

A hoax car bomb was dealt with so smoothly that few at the festival noticed anything unusual.

Two comedians on a tram-poline had the kids squealing with laughter, oblivious to the dark-green armoured car prowling by with helmeted soldiers, submachine guns pointing just above head level.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1499 — Turkish forces take Lepanto in Greece.
- 1553 — Atahualpa, last Inca king of Peru, is strangled on orders of Spanish conqueror, Francisco Pizarro.
- 1756 — Frederick II of Prussia invades Saxony, marking start of seven years' war in which Holland and Sweden decide to remain neutral.
- 1782 — Almost 1,100 people drown when English Man-of-War sinks while being repaired at Portsmouth, England.
- 1842 — Anglo-Chinese war ends with Treaty of Nanking, whereby Canton, Shanghai and Chinese ports are opened to British commerce and Britain obtains large indemnity.
- 1903 — Russia's Finance Minister Count Witte is dismissed, which is taken as victory for group favouring Russian expansion in Manchuria and Korea.
- 1935 — Queen Astrid of Belgium is killed in car accident in Switzerland.
- 1943 — Danish warships are scuttled at Copenhagen in World War II uprising against Nazis.
- 1945 — US General Douglas MacArthur leaves Manila for Japan to accept Japanese surrender.
- 1960 — Jordan's Premier Hazza El Majali is assassinated.
- 1965 — US astronaut L. Gordon Cooper and Charles Conrad make safe landing in Atlantic after record eight days orbit around earth.
- 1972 — North and South Korean Red Cross officials meet in North Korea openly for first time to discuss reunifying divided families.
- 1973 — China's Communist Party chairman Hua Guofeng (Hua Kuo-Feng) completes visit to Eastern Europe, symbolizing historic break with China's traditional isolation.
- 1985 — Rioting flares near Cape Town, South Africa, where police seal off area's largest black township.
- 1987 — Two bombs explode five minutes apart in crowded main square of Syrian-policed Tripoli in Lebanon, killing three people and wounding 25.

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Fighting for an obscure cause

By Fathima Ahmed

FILM heroes—and villains—fight for the same cause, mostly obscure and best known to themselves. They come in style, live gloriously, fight (un)heroically and agonise you as long as the video is on but vanish from memory once you switch it off.

The hero and the villain are a breed apart and forgettable.

As Kanwarlal (Jeetendra) or Natwarlal (Amitabh Bachchan) the hero manages to rattle your nerves. You see red every time he appears, invariably in white trousers, white shoes and white scarf, feet first, as Kanwarlal does. You can't help but wince when someone in the film comments about Kanwarlal's "imposing, handsome personality". Utterly funny would have been a more appropriate description. Hair plastered on his scalp, wearing dark glasses and a scarf, he saunters into court like a lord to fight his first (legal) battle with

his arch rival, Suraj Prakash, (the light of the rising sun), a slimy politician, played by Raj Babbar, who wants to grab Kanwarlal's entire fortune.

No logical reason d'etre explains the enmity between Kanwarlal and Suraj Prakash. Perhaps, none exists. The feud, if it can be called that, begins after Suraj refuses "goodwill money" from Kanwarlal.

They fight tooth and nail to get at each other's throat, trying to outwit each other in a series of legal moves, best described as child's play to settle their dispute. After three hours of brain wracking you don't know why they were fighting.

Maybe, it was a plain good-vs-evil war. No, not true. Kanwarlal expressly tells us, in verse, there is a little bit of evil in everyone, no one's perfect.

Maybe, the conflict was about a woman. No, no. Suraj Prakash ditches lawyer Sandhya, a fiery woman upholding values (for a better part of the film), who shifts loyalty to Kanwarlal, her "friend and



Rishi Kapoor and Sonam in Vijay.

mentor." No one minds. Perhaps, they wanted to "clean up" the state of affairs. Minister Mahadev Suraj Prakash is neck deep in dirt; Kanwarlal throws some of it around. When everyone is corrupt what are they opposing? One gives up. Maybe, people with better intellects might find sense in the nonsensical theme.

The only tolerable character in Kanwarlal is John, Johnny Janardhan (Anjad Khan). J.J. explains his presence in three languages, just in case you miss the point. Raj Babbar, as the glib talking politician fits the bill; Jeetendra, acceptable as the jumping jack, seems awkward as godfather Kanwarlal. In contrast, Yash Chopra's

Vijay is a tolerable blood feud. A family saga, it reinforces belief in karma (deeds) and destiny and denounces materialism through the story of Yodhraj (Anupam Kher), a selfish, unscrupulous millionaire.

Though Chopra is not presenting a novel theme, he manages to sustain interest by deft handling, showing Yodhraj's eccentricity growing in each frame.

Arrogant Yodhraj believes in the power of wealth, generally having his own way and walking over people. When daughter Suman (Hema Malini) marries his employee, he disassociates himself from her. After son Shashi (Raj Babbar) in a brief cameo) chooses his bride, he gives her a blank cheque, the price to leave his son.

Fate intervenes but not before emotional conflicts erupt, followed by highly charged speeches by the protagonists. Arjun, Gujral (Saeed Jafri) and Ajit (Rajesh Khanna).

Each star has a specific role in the film. Anil Kapoor's job is to reform grandpa; Rishi Kapoor's is to romance a scantily clad Sonam on land and in air. Meenakshi Seshadri plays Arjun's girlfriend. Rajesh Khanna plays a bit role as Suman's estranged husband. Anupam Kher gives a powerful performance as the eccentric millionaire, evoking sympathy and hatred for the character. Raj Babbar breezes through his guest role. Anil and Rishi share the brawls, songs and monologues. Sultry Meenakshi, a graceful dancer, is a beautiful prop and looks stunning in some sequences, particularly during her second meeting with Arjun. Suman, who makes her debut in the film, dares to bare but is below average in looks and performance.

The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya. Tel: 4712900.



Jeetendra stars in Kanwarlal.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
The museum will be open to the public every evening from 5 pm and from 9 am to Friday. Islamic Arts Museum.

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show. Tarq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

SOCIAL

Welcome Back to Kuwait

The Sounds Great organisation will hold a "Welcome Back to Kuwait" party at the Mesliah Beach hotel on Sept. 29 at 8 pm. The Sounds Great bands will be in attendance. For table reservations, ring Ken Winston or Adol 5740256/7 or 5758870.

Country Western Musical

The American Community Theatre is rounding up singers, dancers and musicians for their annual Country and Western musical, to be held at the end of September. Interested talents, contact Nancy Parker 2523911 ext. 2346, 5725071 (evenings) or Nola Anderson 2428366.

Indian Ballet

Narthana, a dance troupe led by Mahiniyattam exponent Mrs. Pramela Surendran, will stage a ballet, Panchavadi, and a number of Nrithaslipas at its annual show, Nrithasav, at the Indian Arts Circle, on Sept. 22 at 7.00 pm. Admission will be strictly limited; for free passes, call 4337608.

Sounds Great

Auditions will be held on Sept. 15-17 for singers and dancers for the next Sounds Great show, to be held at the Salmiya cinema on Oct. 19-22. For details ring Ken Winston or Adol 5740256/7 or 5758870.

Y.M.C.A.

The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1 at 8.30 pm. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will be in attendance. For reservations, contact J.D'Sa at 2450279, 3981790, 3924659.

Varca Sporting Centre
Varca Sporting Centre will hold their third annual social evening at the Tani SAS hotel on Sept. 22 at 8.00 pm. Music will be provided by Top Ranks and Stepping Stones. For

reservations and further details, contact Roland 2430581 or James 5331940.

HOTELS

At the Ramada

Al Bender coffee shop offers continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to midnight, a la carte available.

Al Gandou Grill Garden, open 7 pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialties. The Open Garden has selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Arguilla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day. Open from 7 pm to 11 pm daily.

Take away counter, open daily 4 to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks, from 4 pm to 11 pm daily.

At the Kuwait Plaza

The Al Dallah coffee shop offers buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as a set menu mini business lunch. Ice-cream festival at the International Food Arcade; light snacks also available; open 10.00 am to 11.00 pm.

Enjoy Turkish cuisine, a la carte, at the Bosphorus restaurant. Open for lunch and dinner every day except Saturday. The Marco Polo restaurant offers Italian food, live music and a candlelight atmosphere.

There is a Filipino Night every Sunday 7.00 to 9.30 pm; live entertainment provided.

At the Continental

The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food at dinner on Thursday and at lunch on Friday.

The Darbar offers lunch buffet every Thursday. A la carte for dinner.

At the Hilton

La Palma has introduced a new 12-day buffet cycle featuring Arab specialties; open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner, from 6.30 am to midnight.

At the Failaka restaurant, select from a wide variety of dishes to make your own table up buffet. The Magnetic Band provides live music in the evenings. Open every day 12.30 pm to 3 pm and 7.30-11.30 pm.

At the Sheraton

Enjoy Italian cuisine and live entertainment by the Sienna's Duo at the Riccardo restaurant. Riccardo's is closed on Fridays. A selection of seafood is offered in Al Hambra on Wednesday night. The Marcus Band provide live entertainment. Special lunch and dinner buffets are offered to patrons of Le Tarbouche.

At Mesliah Beach

Al Mubarakiyah restaurant, open 24 hours, offers buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as a variety of snacks.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers international buffet meals at lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also available. Fresh pastries and cakes can be bought every day at the Viennese Cafe. The Hanging Babylon Gardens are an ideal place to relax with friends.

At the Meridien

Mango promotion, featuring wide variety of mango preparations including salads, cocktails and mango ice cream, until Aug. 31.

SPORTS

IVth Winners Cup

The YMCA will hold the All Kuwait Open IVth Winners Cup cricket tournament, beginning Sept. 16. It will be played on Fridays and holidays at the Ahmadi Governorate ground located behind the Computer Centre. Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa, Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm.

Masters Bowling Tournament

Semi-finals and final rounds for the Masters tournament for men and women will be held on Thursday, 6.30 pm, Sept. 1, and Friday, 9 am, Sept. 2. Forty-eight top bowlers will play in the men's division on Thursday. Eight players will play in the women's division on Friday. All qualifiers must come on Thursday at 3.00 Club, behind US Embassy.

Salcedo United

The Salcedo United Sports Centre will hold their third annual Gold Cup Football Tournament starting Sept. 9. Those interested may contact Peter 2434415 or Mariano 4744150 after 5 pm, before Sept. 1. The draw will be held on Sept. 2 at 9 am, at the Phoenixia hotel.

Sabah Trophy Meeting

The Sabah Cricket Tournament's organising committee will hold a general meeting on Sept. 1, 7.30 pm, at Ala Restaurant, Sharq. All participating teams are requested to attend. For details phone Naseem Khurshid - 4815077 ext. 513.

Boy's Own Club

Boy's Own Club will organise a seven-a-side one-day football festival on the holiday declared to mark the Prophet's birthday (Oct. 22/23). Interested teams can contact Mithras 3967446 or Joe D'Souza 4813622.

★ All entries for the What's On

column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaik. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Anil Kapoor and Meenakshi in a romantic mood in Vijay.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Ahlan Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St., Al Muthida Souk

Al Sharqiya Pharmacy
Al Hillah St., KPTC

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Khayam
Beirut St.

Salmiya and Rameethiya
Sahari Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahad and Ahmadi
Al Fulaj Pharmacy
Makkah St., nr. Safeway

Jeeb Al Shuyoukh
Al Ayoub Pharmacy
Shuyoukh Commercial Market Complex

Jabra
Al Nour Pharmacy
Al Matafi St., Abdul Aziz Al Nasrallah Bldg.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Action Jackson
Starring: Carol Wades

Al Salmiya
Roller Boogie
Starring: Linda Blair

Al Hamra
Al Fuloos Wal Wahoosh (Arabic)
Starring: Mohammad Suhbi, Madiha Kamil

Drive-in
Al Kamasha (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmood Yassin, Bost, Shawikar

Al Firdous
Qurbani (Hindi)
Starring: Feroz Khan, Zeenat Aman.

Fahad Open-Air
Chor Macbaye (Hindi)

Al Fahad
Battle of Nerva

Al Jabra
Trancers

Granada
Police Academy IV

Salsibikhat
Lethal Weapon

Al Jeeb
Chand Suraj (Bengali)

Ahmadi Drive-in
Take it Easy.

WANTED Part-time typist
Contact
Tel. 2414203, 2425968, between 9 am - 12.00 noon and 4.30 - 7.30 pm

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.02 am
Zuhr 11.48
Asr 3.21 pm
Maghreb 6.12
Isha 7.32

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Good Morning
9.30 Space Adventurer: cartoon serial
10.15 8 Harat Al Bahar: daily serial
11.00 News Summary followed by songs and music
11.15 Bu Saleb Yuredu Halan: local serial
12.00 News Summary
12.15 Cultural Film
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.50 Songs and Music
2.35 Araq Al Dalayah: episode 6 of Arabic series
3.35 Heidi: cartoons
4.15 Football: Kuwait vs Maseelah. Qualifier for 1988 Asian Cup.
6.00 Mama Anisa and Children
7.10 Alwan
7.30 Quran and Science
8.30 Wa Qalat Al Arab: Arabic serial
9.00 News in Arabic
9.30 Al Saqiya Tadour: Arabic series
10.50 Al Uzzaab Al Salasa: Arabic feature film. Starring: Suad Husni, Adel Mamoun, Hassan Yusuf, Abdul Munim Ibrahim. Based on an English play.
12.15 News Summary



Miami Vice, featuring Don Johnson, at 8.40 pm on KTV 2.

12.20 World News via Satellite
12.50 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Gailar: cartoons
6.30 The Craft of the Weaver: "Cloth." Geraldine examines a range of colours obtained from plants and weaves a colourful kaftan.



Watch the Equalizer's "Encounter in a Closed Room," 10.30 pm tonight, KTV 2

7.00 Roving Report: weekly news and regional events.

7.30 Charles-in-Charge: "Discipline." Charles is concerned about low grades obtained by Stan's children.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Miami Vice: "Down for the Count." The squad investigate mob violence in the ring after several boxers are deliberately hurt by gangsters.

9.30 Private Benjamin: "Judy in the Driver's Seat." Judy heads a dangerous mission in the forest and misleads the team.

10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Animal Lover," the story of a girl who is fond of pets.

10.30 The Equalizer: "Encounter in a Closed Room." A Czech scientist, wanted by two governments, seeks McCall's help to defect to a friendly country. Starring: Edward Woodward.

11.30 News summary/Magazine of Actualities/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio Newstead
30 Religious Service
0100 News Summary followed by The Idea of Europe (ex 29th Another Hero of Those Times)
45 Without Strings
0200 World News
09 British Press
15 Pechter's Choice
30 Science in Action
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Good Books
30 Religious Service
0400 News Summary followed by The Idea of Europe (ex 29th Another Hero of Those Times)
45 Without Strings
0500 World News
09 British Press
15 Pechter's Choice
30 Science in Action
0600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Good Books
30 Religious Service
0700 World News
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09 News about Britain
15 Good Books
30 Religious Service

1800 Newsdesk
30 Multitrack 1: Top 20
1900 Outlook, opening with News Summary
39 Stock Market Report
45 Pechter's Choice

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Latin American Hour
1800 Pops
1900 Holter Skelter
2000 Pops
2130 News
2145 Pops
2200 Jazz Sound
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Music
0200 Closedown

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Belterman Qaul
1916 Programme Preview
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Islamicat: Daur-e-Hazir
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Hamare Mehtam
2100 Closedown

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KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY K.S.C.

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1/7638	Anti-foam (emulsion)	KD. 2/-	5.9.88
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1/7654	Pipe	KD. 2/-	5.9.88

Tender documents can be purchased from the Administration Services Department at K.N.P.C. Head Office from 29.8.88.

ART

'A firework display of rainbow - coloured rubbish'
'Kitsch beyond the wildest bad dream'
'A phantasmagoria of so-called art'

Elton John's \$6 million 'garage sale'

By Gregory Jensen

LONDON, (UPI): Rock star Elton John is having a 'garage sale' — about \$6 million worth — to empty his house and his life of what one critic calls a phantasmagoria of so-called art.

These days people are streaming into London's Victoria and Albert museum for an eye-popping pre-sale glimpse of what John spent 20 years collecting — his flamboyant stage costumes, extravagant furniture, glass and art deco dancing girls, the whole bizarre and sometimes beautiful accumulation of a magpie hoarder.

"I'm changing direction now," says John, 40. "I'm doing this so we can start again. I'm going to be ultra modern."

John is getting rid of so much that Sotheby's auction house is taking four September days to sell it all. The Victoria and Albert, in the first such collaboration between a major museum and an auctioneer, is showing a mere quarter of his 2,000-item horde.

"I've always tried collecting with a sense of humour, and there are things that are ridiculous and hideous," John said at a show preview. "That's almost an understatement."

"There's his Magritte painting of a swimming fish draped with strings of pearls. There's his diamond brooch shaped like cartoon bear Winnie the Pooh, and the 5-foot (1.5 m) boots he wore in the movie Tommy, and his Capt. Fantastic pinball machine."

But there are also etchings by Rembrandt and Picasso, gorgeous Lalique glass, a flock of art deco and art nouveau pieces a museum official said "are good enough to kill for."

Elton John seems to have been like an Australian Bower Bird, which decorates its nest with anything that glitters. He sought out the gaudy, the



Elton John stands proudly with some choice pieces from his collection. He sought out the gaudy, the bizarre and the peculiar and crammed his home with it.

bizarre and the peculiar and crammed his home with it.

"His house just got so crowded that he had to fight his way to his bedroom," said a Sotheby's spokeswoman.

"There's been so much stuff it's been like walking into a warehouse," John said. "I want somewhere to sit rather than somewhere to stand."

A video half-hidden in the museum display shows snapshots of John's overstuffed house near Windsor, England, so packed that Sotheby chairman Lord Gower called it "an Aladdin's cave, a magic toy shop."

John isn't merely weeding

out. He's selling everything —

his gold records, backstage passes to his stage shows, 100 pairs of his trademark spectacles, from the specs with feathers to those with red-white-blue light bulbs — modestly spelling "Elton."

Art critics are having a field day lambasting his taste. One said his collection is "a firework display of rainbow-coloured rubbish." Another called it "kitsch beyond the wildest bad dream."

"John," said a third, "didn't collect; he shopped. A rich child with unlimited amounts of money, John brought little knowledge, discipline or discernment to his impulse buying."

Yet he bought some great names — Tiffany lamps, furniture with exotic embroidery designed by Raoul Dufy, costume designs by Erte. His extraordinary furniture by Carlo Bugatti is the largest group in private hands.

John concentrated on the first 30 years of this century. Some of his most beautiful pieces are glass from that period. Even here he couldn't resist the bizarre — one Lalique vase is in the shape of a coiled serpent.

But the result is a phenomenal assembly of every kind of art nouveau and art deco object. Two cases in the museum hold 36 art deco dancing girls, sinuous ivory and metal statuettes. There are clocks, gem-set boxes, a wondrous collection of glass, jewellery which a critic said "oddly mixes the tastes of a conservative duchess and a mid-thirties flapper."

"I had no idea how well I was buying," John told one interviewer. He paid good prices in the early 1970s, but values have skyrocketed since then.

Gaudy

Besides what he bought, 25 of John's famous stage costumes are lined in a gaudy rank at the museum, including his Statue of Liberty costume made of silver sequins. He's selling them all.

He's unloading jewels he wore on album cover photographs, his often odd oil paintings, his surrealist sculptures, and 1930s racing-car teapots.

So great is the interest in the button-nosed singer's trinkets that samples have been shown in Tokyo, New York, Los Angeles, Sydney and now London.

Sotheby's is holding two or three sale sessions a day at the Sept 6-9 auction. The four catalogues alone cost 40 pounds (\$68).

American designer succeeds, where Bernini failed

Architectural revolution at the Louvre

By William Echikson

PARIS — In 1546, King Francois I began building the Louvre. Future French kings added elegant ballrooms, sumptuous salons, and palatial living rooms. Napoleon III designed an entire courtyard. Napoleon III constructed two more wings.

Francois Mitterrand is just as ambitious.

Over the objections of horrified traditionalists and reluctant conservative ministers, the Socialist French President is putting his own grandiose and expensive mark on the former royal palace, now one of the world's great museums. As part of a long-overdue renovation project, a 66-foot-high glass pyramid designed by the American architect I.M. Pei will open in the Louvre's central courtyard early next fall. The pyramid will serve as the new museum entrance and, Mr. Mitterrand hopes, a powerful symbol for his presidential reign. Its sleek, modern shape promises to become the most famous reminder of the President's huge public building programme for the French capital, which includes a new opera house, two big music halls, two new museums, and a communications centre.

"We must prove that France is a modern country, a country of the future," says Christian Sautter, Assistant Secretary General of the presidential Elysee Palace. "Former President (Valery) Giscard d'Estaing didn't build much. He told us that we were a small country with average capabilities. These projects will illustrate France's proper role, its greatness."

The pyramid represents much more than a simple building project. It stands for the French nation. "When French kings finally united France, they set up court in the Louvre," explains Jean-Baptiste Vaquin, a director of the renovation project. "The Louvre symbolizes the glory of the king and of the state."

In the United States, the rich underwrite symphony halls and museums. In France, the

state is the patron. Paris always has been defined by the state-built monuments which stand along the Seine, the Concorde, the Grand Palais, the Tour Eiffel, and, of course, the Louvre.

"We need the touch of the prince," Mr. Vaquin hypothesizes. "Louis XVI had his Versailles. President Mitterrand has the Louvre."

Tampering with the soul of any nation is a touchy matter, and the Louvre always has inspired rivalry. The great French architect Francois Mansart had 15 projects for redesigning the palace rejected 300 years ago. Bernini, the architect of St. Peter's in Rome, was sent back to Italy when he tried to touch the Louvre.

When Mr. Pei was received by

Mitterrand, one of the first things the French President told him was, "What happened to Bernini will not happen to you."

No one disagreed with the President about the need to renovate the museum. Nothing in the palace had changed since 1884 — not the plumbing, not the electrical system, and, worst of all, not the endless walks up and down stairs to find the Mona Lisa. The problems will be corrected by the museum renovation, scheduled for completion by the year 2000.

The pyramid project still provoked outrage. Traditionalists complained about the choice of an American architect. They worried that the design would spoil the palace's

panorama, while obstructing the spectacular view which runs through the Tuileries Gardens up along the Champs-Elysees to the Arc de Triomphe.

Le Figaro called Pei's plan "a monster." Le Monde said the President was treating the Louvre like Disneyland. Both newspapers were flooded with letters of support and, in 1984, the Louvre's director resigned in protest.

When Conservative Jacques Chirac became prime minister in 1986, the project looked doomed. Outraged by the cost — \$800 million — Mr. Chirac vowed during his campaign to cut its budget. Once in office, he changed his mind.

"He took a close look at the pyramid and was seduced," recalls Lydie Gerbaud, a Chirac aide. "It was that simple."

Approval

Well, not quite so simple. Even after the prime minister gave his approval, his finance minister, Edouard Balladur, balked. Mr. Balladur wasn't upset about the high cost. The Finance Ministry's lavish headquarters are located in one of the palace wings, and Balladur refused to move to new offices, despite the construction.

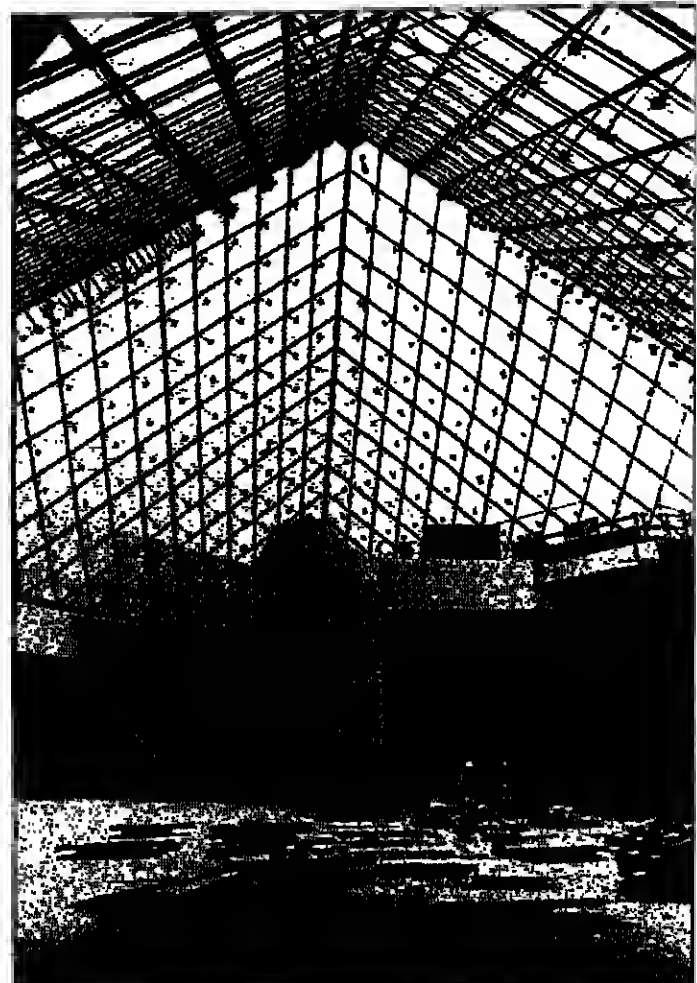
Culture Minister Francois Leotard tried to force him to leave. Prime Minister Chirac nudged him. But Balladur wouldn't budge.

This "battle of the Louvre" is about to end. In May, French voters re-elected Mitterrand, forcing Chirac and Balladur to resign. Public opinion polls show that 80 per cent of the French now approve of the controversial pyramid, and the new Socialist finance minister, has pledged to move out by the end of the year.

"Churchill once said a house offers a picture of the mind of its inhabitant," reflects Andre Gauron, a Finance Ministry official.

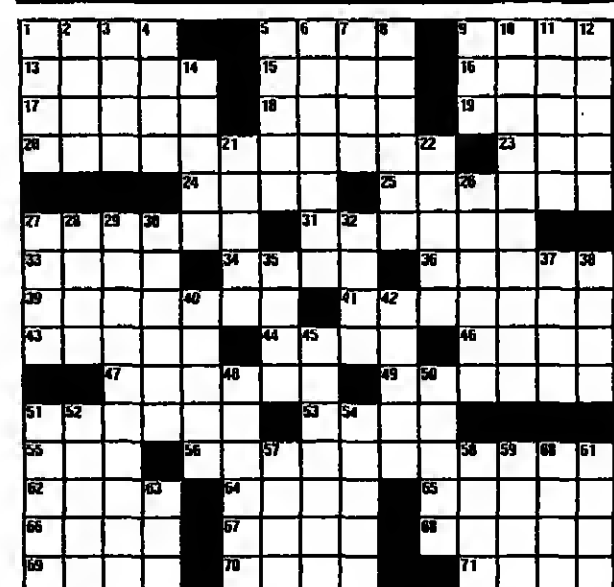
"This is no democratic building. This is the Old Empire. We need a more modern, functional office, not all this golden finery."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



American architect I.M. Pei's pyramid will open at the Louvre Museum in Paris later this year.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Apartment, along the Thames
 - 5 Strip off
 - 9 Hawk's opposite
 - 13 Mechanical worker
 - 15 Pier
 - 16 Ian's cousin, in Cardiff
 - 17 Mountain spine
 - 18 Sting
 - 19 Blend
 - 20 Prasants with restraint
 - 23 Street, in Paris
 - 24 Fr. holy woman
 - 25 Demonstrated
 - 27 Worshipping
 - 31 Completa
 - 33 — it up
 - 34 Ye — Shoppe
 - 36 Poker play
 - 39 Record in advance
 - 41 Gats even
 - 43 Cremona instr.
 - 44 Capri, for one
 - 46 River access, in India
 - 47 Death Valley adjective
 - 49 — fly
 - 51 Wool worker
 - 53 Track event
 - 55 Words on a carte
 - 56 Furiva
 - 62 Estrangement
 - 64 Relating to a period
 - 65 Governor
 - 66 Cuomo
 - 66 — each life...
 - 67 Dotted, in heraldry
 - 68 Chic
 - 69 Super
 - 70 Hardy heroine
 - 71 Cote residents
- DOWN**
- 1 Born wife
 - 2 Desolate
 - 3 Sleeping
 - 4 Lug
 - 5 Imitation jewelry
 - 6 Completely covered
 - 7 State, in Paris
 - 8 Weakest excusa
 - 9 Rep. antagonist
 - 10 Dieter's concern
 - 11 Worth
 - 12 Finished
 - 14 Devoid of superfluity
 - 21 Sharpener
 - 22 Heavy British draft horse
 - 26 Navel article
 - 27 Home of the Jungfrau
 - 28 Dish tha — (gossip)
 - 29 Bank problems
 - 30 Slow down
 - 32 Actress Patricia —
 - 35 Oahu
 - 36 Walcomers
 - 37 Group of seven
 - 38 Italian noble family
 - 40 Nice farewell
 - 42 Fodder plant
 - 45 Pours out, as a crowd
 - 48 Hemingway
 - 50 Mine areas
 - 51 Antilles Indian
 - 52 True
 - 54 City on the Rhona
 - 57 Endure, Scot.
 - 58 "What's in a —?"
 - 59 Sketch
 - 60 Inistal
 - 61 Dashes' companions
 - 63 Toddler

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

OEYS RONS ZONE
REST DONUT OVER
AREA ELENA OIAL
WORLOSAIR IOLE
LAKE TEA
BAILS BALACTIC
SIGNE PETER UNA
AGOG LUTES PLAN
COR AARON BRINE
STARTURN ELOPE
HER ATOM
TOTO EARTHBOUNO
AVIO ADORE TROY
METE TATER EASE
ENDS EIRIE SLED

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WHO NEEDS ACES?

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 10 4
♥ 2
♦ Q 9 8 7 6 5
♣ A 4

EAST
♠ 8 5 3
♥ K J 7 6
♦ 2
♣ J 10 8 6 3

SOUTH
♠ K J 9 2
♥ A 9 8 5 4 3
♦ A K
♣ K

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 ♥ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♥ Pass
5 NT Pass 7 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Even double dummy, it is not easy to spot the winning line to the grand slam after a club lead. We are told that it was actually found at the table. Although we accept this statement at face value, the declarer who made this hand so brilliantly remains anonymous.

After South's reverse, North cuebid his club ace at the three-level as a temporizing measure. Once South

could look for a grand slam with five no trump, despite the fact that he had poor trumps, North realized that South had to have enough controls to make the grand slam a viable contract.

Declarer won the opening club lead in hand, cashed the king of diamonds, then crossed to dummy by leading a low trump to the ten. Next came the ace of clubs, on which declarer discarded the ace of diamonds!

The rest was relatively easy. Declarer ruffed a diamond high, cashed the ace of hearts and returned to the table with a heart ruff. Another diamond ruff high set up the suit, and declarer was able to overtake his last trump on the board to draw trumps and claim his contract after cashing the queen of diamonds.

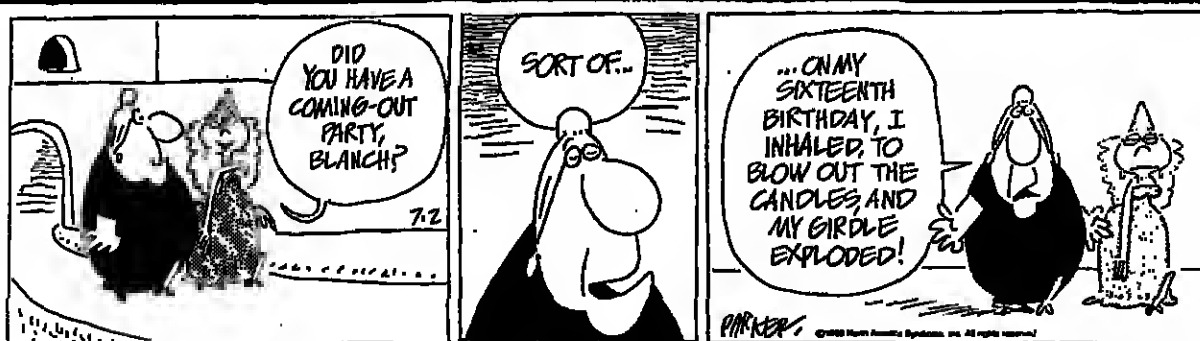
Note the beauty and complete safety of South's line. If diamonds were 3-2 and trumps 4-1, declarer would still get home. The distribution of the diamonds would become known after one ruff, and declarer would still have enough high trumps to draw trumps ending on the table, then run diamonds. As the cards lie, all he had to do to land his contract was to execute a dummy reversal combined with a jetison play, and declarer is too modest to claim his work of art!



"Keep this in your room. We don't have a fire escape."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>You should beware of all kinds of exaggeration. You will find it a little hard to concentrate but you must make the effort. Avoid doing anything you are not quite sure about. Be reliable.</p>	<p>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>You will be able to take advantage of a good opportunity. Avoid dwelling on some secondary matter, instead concentrate on what is really important. You should make quite sure you do not do anything that might well injure your health.</p>	<p>Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>You must avoid the temptation to buy a usually expensive gadget just because it is cheap; here too you get largely what you pay for. Avoid making a nuisance of yourself. You should leave enough time to attend to a personal matter. Be tolerant.</p>	<p>Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>You will have to beware of setting out on a spending spree. If you do not act fast you may well lose a good opportunity. A decision you know should be made now must not be delayed.</p>
<p>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>The prospects are good but you must keep your mind on what you are doing. You should not dwell too much on the past; you have the future to look forward to. You should avoid jumping to conclusions. Be constructive.</p>	<p>Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)</p> <p>You should try to avoid doing anything that would give rise to jealousy. You will not be in the best of moods but if you try you will be able to restrain your temper. You should listen carefully to what others are saying. Be dependable.</p>	<p>Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You must avoid the temptation to buy a usually expensive gadget just because it is cheap; here too you get largely what you pay for. Avoid making a nuisance of yourself. You should leave enough time to attend to a personal matter. Be tolerant.</p>	<p>Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>You will need to have your wits about you today. You will be able to make good use of a rare opportunity. You would be wrong to try anything devious. Be sincere.</p>
<p>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>You will feel in top form but must not dissipate your energies. You have an interesting and rewarding day ahead of you. You should not insist you are always right. Be a little more patient.</p>	<p>Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)</p> <p>You will be able to make the best use of your time and you will also be able to encourage others. You should make sure you do not lose sight of your objections. Try to keep things in their proper proportion. Be fair.</p>	<p>Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p>You will be able to see matters more clearly. You will be better off attending to an important question personally rather than leaving it to others. However do not exceed your powers or competence. Be considerate.</p>	<p>Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)</p> <p>The situation is rather stagnant and it is up to you to put some life into matters. Make sure you are aiming at the right objectives and have a little more faith in yourself. Do not neglect your personal affairs. Be sensible.</p>

By Sam Ogunseitan

KOKO, Nigeria: The dangerous drums are being removed. But the poisons remain in the ground, a threat to the lives of the people of Koko — and to water, forests and vegetation for many miles around.

The story began last September when Sunday Nana, 57, a farmer and mechanic in the sleepy coastal port of Koko in south-west Nigeria, was offered US\$120 a month to store a few hundred drums of waste in his backyard. He accepted.

Some broken drums were emitting a "choking odour" and leaking chemicals destroyed leather and rubber gloves worn by some of the 300 or so US\$2-a-day dockworkers who offloaded them. But Nana, and his neighbours and the dockers were not too concerned. Koko usually sees only one ship every couple of months, and here were four ships — two Italian, one German and one Danish — offering work.

Boom

For the residents of Koko, a former slave traders' port, the arrival of the foreign industrial waste seemed to be a boom.

But after two Nigerian journalists discovered the dump this June, its hidden secret was revealed: it was a poisonous brew of radioactivity and toxic chemicals.

The Nigerian government invited the United States Environment Protection Agency and the United Kingdom and Japanese atomic energy agencies to check the dump.

The first two warned that several chemicals on the site were among the 10 most dangerous in the world. Last month, the Japanese Atomic Energy Agency reported that it

Illegal dumping of industrial waste brings host of problems to Nigeria

The drums of foreign toxic and radioactive waste illegally dumped by Italian and other ships in a quiet Nigerian port are leaving. But the consequences will be much longer-lasting.

had found three drums of radioactive active waste, and recommended that the topsoil be scraped clean and stored until a safe means of disposing it could be found.

The "cargo of death from Italy" as the local press describe it — the materials had been embarked in Livorno, near Pisa — included drums and barrels containing highly poisonous polychlorobiphenyls (PCBs), many caustic organic solvents, fluoro-silicates, cyanates, toxic resins like methyl melamine, dioxin and other poisonous chloro-compounds, and a large volume of wastes of paints and pigment manufacture.

After lengthy and heated negotiations between the Nigerian and Italian governments — Nigeria held an Italian ship as "hostage" — the leaky drums, barrels, transport containers and bags of chemicals from the United States and ten European countries are being taken back to Italy.

Mess

But much of the mess in Koko will remain — on the ground, in the water supply, and in already-emptied drums.

Almost immediately after the discovery of the dump the government told people in the town to stop farming on the

lands to prevent the intake of unsafe amounts of chemicals. However, harvesting of the cassava grown right on the dump site began this month (August). The cassava tuber will be processed into the various carbohydrate-rich foods which are the local staples.

For the next two months at least, the heavy tropical rains now washing the poisons into the soil will continue to drench the underground waters at Koko and its environs in hazardous substances.

Still more, just beyond the dump site is a thick forest that extends to the banks of the Benue River — and in the forest is a pond which is a rich source of fish. Even more, it is connected to the river which straddles some 100,000 hectares of farmland, providing irrigation water for 30,000 farmers.

Supported

Runoff water from the slope where the dump is situated can be seen flowing towards this forest and the pond.

Sunday Nana was quick to deny blame for allowing his premises to be used for the storage of the poisonous cargo. He asked: "Where is the law which says I cannot rent out my land?"

The people of Koko supported him. They told the government they should not have to suffer because of the waste Nana allowed on his premises since nobody in the town could have queried what government health officials allowed into the country.

Besides, the people of Koko had been told by the importer that the chemicals were raw materials for a factory being built in the town of Asaba, 180 kilometres away.

It took top government officials, including a state minister, and days of dialogue before Sunday Nana agreed, at the end of June, to vacate his polluted land.

Even then Nana agreed to be resettled elsewhere in Koko not because he believed officials' claims that his land had been irretrievably polluted, but because they told him the safety of his house could not be guaranteed against fire and other risks involved in removing the wastes.

Labelled

While the truth about the toxic dump was unfolding, Sunday Nana and his family were using some of the drums to collect rainwater which they use for bathing — even though brownish, sticky mixtures of poisonous resin wastes remain on the drums. Cousins of the Nanas have been using drums for brewing their local gin.

An official inquiry has found that the wastes were brought to Nigeria in five shipments between 27 August 1987 and 19 May this year. Nigerian authorities had given approval for a

Nigerian-registered firm to bring wastes from Italy into the country for "reprocessing."

However, some of the drums were falsely labelled so that they would not be recognised as toxic wastes. With the help, too, of document forgeries and gifts to Nigerian health inspectors and customs men, 3,884 tonnes of poisonous chemicals wastes were brought into the country.

It could have been even worse: it emerged that the shipowners had planned to land to total of 54,000 tonnes before being caught out.

An Italian businessman, Gianfranco Raffaelli, long resident in Nigeria, has been named as masterminding the shipments. He is now reported to have fled the country.

Meanwhile, three of the dock workers newly employed to repack the poisoned cargo were treated for vomiting blood six days after coming into contact with it. Doctors say they probably ate food without realising that the chemicals they were repacking had got onto their hands while they exchanged gloves, overalls and facemasks.

As it is, these safety devices are in short supply. One worker suffered partial paralysis after accidentally inhaling some of the poisonous fumes through an improperly closed breathing mask.

At least six cases of serious chemical burns have been reported by the doctors who are checking the health of the workers repacking the waste. And doctors at Koko have reported seven miscarriages within two weeks, well above



Sunday Nana, owner of the land at Koko in south-west Nigeria where the toxic waste was dumped walks in to inspect the leaking drums.

the national average.

According to one report to the Nigerian government, there is a high risk of fire. Since the contents of many of the drums are unknown, simply to pack the drums together — many of them broken — is to risk setting off chemical reactions which may even be explosive.

Bangs

Already, small bangs have been heard from the dump, particularly in the hot Nigerian afternoons.

With the duty of removing the drums, dock workers carting the cargo through the one kilometre stretch to the port en route to Italy, have demanded full protective clothing, including oxygen masks.

They have also requested insurance cover and free

medical screening for those who were "heartlessly" used without any protective clothing and without warnings during the off-loading of the waste.

The Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS) last weekend ratified a law which makes the dumping of any type of industrial wastes in any country within the sub-continent a criminal offence.

Although the ECOWAS stand is stronger than that taken by the Organisation of African Unity earlier this year, it remains to be seen how the law will be enforced in the sub-region where at least three governments have been implicated in agreements with several European and American waste-dumpers.

In fact, the Nigerian govern-

ment's own vigorous campaigning against the dumping of industrial wastes in Africa was just reaching a crescendo when the Koko dump affair blew open. The government had launched the campaign after media exposure of a secret nuclear waste-dumping agreement signed in April between France and the Republic of Benin, Nigeria's western neighbour.

By June 5, when the Guardian newspaper in Lagos reported finding the Koko toxic waste dump, a thoroughly disappointed government could only blame officials and some unscrupulous citizens who "connived with foreigners to destroy their land."

The government is hinting that it is considering introducing the death penalty for such dumping. Panos Features.

By Jay Srinivas

ANDHRA PRADESH, India: In a country ravaged by drought Dr E.A.V. Prasad's unorthodox methods of searching for water are proving successful. But his work is creating ripples in the scientific community.

A professor of geology at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, in Andhra Pradesh state, Prasad says he locates "underground 'aquifers' by surveying the surface for clues, like termite mounds and certain species of trees he calls "bio-indicators."

Earlier this year, when the Gujarat State Water Supply and Sewerage Board (GWSSB) asked him to locate groundwater in the water-starved villages of Jamnagar district, he accepted it as a challenge to his views.

While surveying the surface vegetation for "bio-indicators" in Kambhalia village, Prasad spotted a date palm entwined with a banyan tree. He asked the GWSSB to drill a borehole 15 feet north of it.

Water gushed out at the rate of 2,000 gallons per hour, to the surprise of government geologists who did not expect to find water there because a survey of the electrical resistance of the ground had shown no sign of water.

Within 10 days Prasad identified 51 well-sites in 30 villages classified either as "no source" villages or sites where earlier attempts to locate groundwater by conventional methods had failed. Drilling is in progress.

In 1981, when his native Andhra Pradesh state was parched with drought, Prasad identified 300 well sites in Rayalseema, the driest region. These wells are producing water today.

While Prasad was working in

Unorthodox methods prove successful Combating India's drought with ancient technology

Using a 6th century manuscript, an Indian geologist is discovering underground water. Experts are cool about his methods but he insists that evidence of water is provided by trees and termites. Prasad's unusual methods and success are creating ripples in the scientific community.

Jamnagar, another team was trying to locate well sites using pictures from remote sensing satellites. India's remote sensing satellite cost US\$50m. Yet, according to Prasad, the success rate of remote sensing was about 30 per cent, "which is as good as water divining by quacks."

Ant hills are the best indicators of groundwater, says Prasad. Termites go down deep to reach the water table in order to bring water, to the ground to maintain the humidity in the mounds required for their survival.

The growth of certain trees whose root system can penetrate the soil to reach the water table, no matter how deep is another unfailing indicator, he says.

While seeking groundwater indicators, Prasad also looks for trees with knots in their trunks or branches, or two species of trees symbiotically united into one. His other clues are abnormal physiological features like palm trees with two crowns instead of one, absence of thorns in a normally thorn-bearing tree, and trees with a glossy appearance and bleached flowers.

A voracious reader of ancient literature, Prasad stumbled on the list of bioindicators in the treatise Brihat Samhita written by Varahamihira, a philosopher-sage who lived 1,500 years ago. Brihat Samhita, according to Prasad, "is the essence of ancient Indian wisdom on tropical ground-water hydrology."

Varahamihira's list of bioindicators includes some 30 species of plants, half a dozen animals such as the moisture loving tree frog, and insects sensitive to dryness and hence always moving to regions of higher humidity.

Because even illiterate men can recognize the bioindicators and rapidly locate well-sites, and it costs nothing, Prasad calls it "people's technology to fight drought."

Indicators

But Varahamihira wrote the book in Sanskrit and so nobody believes it is, science, says Prasad. For the last 15 years he has been leading a one-man mission to put Varahamihira's technique on a scientific footing by systematically drilling for water near every bioindicator listed in the ancient text.

Prasad's approach has not,

however, received the full-hearted support of the central government's groundwater board. Says G. Ghosh, project director of the water technology missions: "I am not fully convinced about Prasad's technique."

Prasad replies by saying that government geologists have been brainwashed for years by Western technologies like resistivity measurements originally developed to detect minerals but not water; he also refers to the vested interest in perpetuating current practice because of the huge sums involved.

According to Prasad, Varahamihira's technique is applicable to many hard-rock, drought-prone regions of the world including the southwest United States, Brazil, Africa, South and West Asia and Western Australia.

But again, experts disagree, this time those of the World Bank. In a letter to Prasad, a Bank spokesman said the presence of a tree species that grows deep roots may indicate that the tree is tapping an aquifer for its own needs, "but not that there is enough water for high-yielding tubewells."

Panos Features

Where have all the forests gone?

By Roger Atwood

RIO DE JANEIRO, (Reuter): Bold new efforts are under way to save the world's vanishing tropical rain forests — but have not stopped settlers and loggers from hacking them down.

A recent survey on three continents found that governments are finally heeding the words of ecologists and acting to conserve the last remaining forests within their borders.

But these steps may be too late or impossible to enforce: tropical rain forests are vanishing at a rate of about 20 hectares (50 acres) a minute, the World Wildlife Fund estimates.

In Costa Rica, long praised for conservation efforts, the last remaining forests outside national parks are expected to fall to the lumberer's chainsaw and the settler's axe by 1995.

"The disappearance of Costa Rica's forests is no longer a projection, but rather something for the historians to study," natural resources, mines and energy minister Alvaro Umana said recently. "It's already happened, it's the reality, in spite of the government's efforts."

Demise

Scientists have said that the slow demise of rain forests is contributing to a global warming trend. They are only beginning to grasp the full consequences of the "greenhouse effect" but fear it could spell disaster for agriculture.

The devastation also hastens erosion and disrupts weather patterns. The consequence is both floods and droughts.

Rain forests are home to more than half the world's plant and animal species. As the habitats are destroyed, countless thousands of them are being driven to extinction.

Though they still cover huge tracts of land in equatorial regions of Latin America, Africa and the vast archipelago stretching from Southeast Asia to Australia, hit by bit, the forests are falling to settlers, loggers and urban sprawl.

Ivory Coast once boasted 15 million hectares (37 million acres) of forest but now only a 10th of that remains. Hardwood timber is the West



This was once a verdant forest. Bit by bit the forests of the world are falling to settlers, loggers and urban sprawl.

African state's third largest export but officials say they may have to import it within 10 years.

In Malaysia, the eastern states of Sabah and Sarawak should see their once-rich forests vanish by the end of the century, according to the Friends of the Earth conservation group.

In Brazil, waves of settlers and an Amazon gold rush have fuelled the wholesale destruction of the world's largest remaining rain forest to the point that scientists now say it may be nearly wiped out in 15 years.

The eight other countries that share the Amazon jungle are not faring much better.

Indiscriminate

"Logging is indiscriminate all over the jungle," said Tony Luscombe, vice-president of the Ecology and Conservation Association of Peru, where flash floods are becoming a problem.

Around the globe deforestation is causing a dual surge of floods and drought.

In the upper reaches of the Parana River Basin in Brazil, years of deforestation has reduced the "sponge effect" of the jungle floor, contributing to floods in Paraguay and Argentina.

"When an area is completely deforested, about 10 times as much water runs off because there are simply no roots left in the soil to catch it," said Philip

Fearnside, a researcher at Brazil's National Amazon Research Institute, predicting more frequent and more severe flooding.

Deforestation also reduces rainfall. Trees not only prevent erosion but give off moisture. Cut down the trees, and not enough water will evaporate to fall later as rain.

In Brazil's western state of Rondonia, the dry season has lengthened as settlers and loggers denude the land. Much of the once-fertile state now resembles a scrubby wasteland, devoid of wildlife and unsuitable for agriculture.

Rain is also becoming scarcer in Ivory Coast. The tropical forestry centre in Abidjan estimates average rainfall has dropped 20 to 30 per cent over 20 years, though experts are unsure if it is a direct result of deforestation.

Drought

Scientists say drought caused by deforestation on the island of Borneo, shared by Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei, helped set off a series of forest fires in 1982 and 1983 that charred three million hectares (7.5 million acres) of jungle.

"It's a vicious cycle. As more and more trees are cut down, the dry season gets longer which in turn makes it harder for the remaining trees to survive," said Fearnside.

The consequence over time

could be a steady warming trend around the globe — the "greenhouse effect", which is also aggravated by industrialisation and the use of fossil fuels — as tonnes of carbon dioxide and other gases from burning trees drift into the atmosphere, scientists say.

Once lodged in the atmosphere, the gases would act as a giant blanket over the earth and prevent heat from escaping. Slash-and-burn deforestation sends about five billion tonnes of carbon dioxide into the upper atmosphere a year. Scientists say the phenomenon already has begun and could drastically cut farm yields around the world as the earth becomes hotter and drier.

All this is happening at a time when countries with forests within their borders are taking new steps to conserve a precious commodity: tropical hardwood timber, which fetched about \$3 billion for producer countries in 1985.

A World Bank report said farmers, loggers and settlers were felling Indonesia's forests at a rate of 900,000 hectares (2.2 million acres) a year, despite a regulation that only trees more than 50 cm (20 inches) in diameter can be cut down.

"Actual exploitation levels are believed to be substantially above reported levels, and overlogging and damage to existing stock is widespread," the report said.

Protection

Brazil, which encompasses about one-third of the world's rain forests, has put conservation in its new constitution, requiring government protection of areas with ecological value.

But no law will stop the real dynamic behind the devastation of Brazil's forests. Farmers, left unemployed by the growing mechanization of farming in the more prosperous south, are heading north to the Amazon in search of new lands.

It is a worldwide pattern. In Africa, where 3.6 million hectares (nearly nine million acres) vanish each year, rapid population growth impels farmers to clear trees for farmland and thwarts government efforts across the continent to hold on to what's left.

FAMILY DOCTOR By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: My daughter won't discuss this with me openly, but I know she is worried and anxious. I need some information before I open the conversation with her. What does it mean when a teen-ager gets abnormal periods?

Answer: Irregular vaginal bleeding is fairly common in adolescents because even though menstruation begins, it initially is not accompanied by ovulation in almost 50 per cent of all teenage girls.

Initially the bleeding occurs after estrogen (a female hormone) causes a buildup or thickening in the endometrium (the tissue that lines the uterus). It sheds and bleeds irregularly after a few months because the endometrium cannot support the thick layer.

A temporary reduction in estrogen levels also can cause the bleeding, as can a lack of progesterone, the hormone responsible for ovulation. Since a true hormonal balance and the onsets of ovulation frequently don't develop until mid or late puberty, menstrual irregularity can be quite common.

However, in managing teen-agers exhibiting such irregularities, it is important to distinguish a normal variation from an actual abnormality. Bleeding is usually

IRREGULAR VAGINAL BLEEDING COMMON IN ADOLESCENTS

labelled clinically abnormal when painless heavy bleeding persists for over a week and occurs more frequently than at 21-day intervals. These symptoms, as well as the development of secondary anaemia due to large losses of blood, should be investigated.

To diagnose an abnormality, tests are performed to rule out other serious causes such as congenital uterine abnormalities, cervical polyps, pelvic inflammatory disease or coagulation defects. Once these and other possible complications are eliminated, evaluation and treatment can be initiated.

In non-emergency cases, when the girl is not actively bleeding and has a haemoglobin count of 10 or more grams, management is fairly simple. The patient is instructed to keep a menstrual calendar and is placed on a high protein diet with adequate rest and recreation. In some cases, oral iron supplements are given. Ultimately, the hope is that ovulation will develop spontaneously and with it regular and mildly painful periods.

In emergency cases, when there is active bleeding and low haemoglobin, treatment is more complicated. Since progesterone is responsible for ovulation, oral progestins or other synthetic progestogens are adminis-

tered with small amounts of estrogen. One tablet taken four times a day after meals should stop the bleeding within two days. The dose should then be reduced to one or two tablets for a couple of weeks. Withdrawal bleeding follows.

After this initial hormone treatment, the patient is given a low-dose oral contraceptive for three to four months to prevent a recurrence. Oral contraceptives can be very effective in regulating cycles. After a few months of treatment, patient will usually resume ovulation and regular periods.

However, all patients who exhibit dysfunctional uterine bleeding should receive continuous long-term observation because some may never ovulate and will continue to experience recurrent clinical problems.

Quite simply, none of this evaluation or treatment can start until you and your daughter have a heart-to-heart, "sit-down" conversation. Sure she's worried, and may be a bit frightened as well. Remember your first experiences?

Once you are past the anxieties, it will all probably straighten out by itself. If not, a visit to the physician is then in order.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, Inc.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Boeing order from Sweden gives company a record '88

SEATTLE, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Boeing announced yesterday that the number of jet aircraft orders received by the company this year has reached a record 466 following an order from Sweden worth more than \$175 million.

The order for six 737-500s from Sweden's domestic airline Linjeflyg lifted the dollar value of orders during 1988 to \$20.7 billion, Boeing executives told a news conference.

Boeing said the Linjeflyg deal included an option on another six aircraft. It said deliveries of the aircraft are scheduled to begin in 1991.

Largest
The previous annual record for Boeing, the world's largest builder of airliners, was in 1978 when it received orders of 461 planes for the entire year.

The company has benefited this year from a weak dollar and the need of many airlines to replace ageing planes.

Of the 466 aircraft ordered so far this year, 272 are model 737s, 41 are 747s, 121 are 757s and 32 are 767s.

Last week Boeing received an order for two 747-400s worth \$250 million from British Airways.

UK exports to Iraq soar

LONDON, Aug. 28, (OPECNA): British exports to OPEC member Iraq increased by 20 per cent to \$195.50 million during the first quarter of this year.

The announcement came on the confirmation that the British Ministry of Trade and Industry Tony Newton will lead his country's delegation to the joint Anglo-Iraq joint commission to be held in Baghdad next November.

British officials said the visit would be part of renewed efforts to help UK firms benefit from trade opportunities in Iraq after a ceasefire between Iraq and Iran went into effect on August 20.

The visit will coincide with the 25th annual Baghdad international fair, in which about 45 British firms will take part, nearly twice the number of 1987.

Prospects
The delegation will also discuss prospects for British firms' contribution to the country's post-war reconstruction, especially in the oil sector.

The talks will also cover the possibility of new guaranteed lines of British credits to Iraq, the officials said.

British exports to Iraq slumped from about \$755 million in 1986 to about \$54 million in 1987, with imports dropping from \$433.50 million to \$58.70 over the same period.

Meanwhile, in the wake of the Iran-Iraq ceasefire, the general secretariat of the Arab Gulf Chambers of Commerce Union has received detailed information on construction projects and investment opportunities in Iraq's industrial and agricultural sectors.

Projects
Abdullah Al Mula, the union's secretary-general, said he hopes local contractors can join the Iraqi private sector in completing the projects.

The secretariat contacted the Iraqi Chambers of Commerce Union to get investors and Gulf businessmen to provide the data.

Meanwhile, Al Mula said he hopes that Arab and Gulf contractors will be able to participate in economic and developmental projects which had been hurt by the Iran-Iraq war.

Plan to boost economic ties

BEIJING, Aug. 28, (KUNA): China and Japan signed an agreement here today to encourage and protect their investments in each other's country, the Chinese news agency (Xinhua) reported.

The agreement is aimed at further enhancing Sino-Japanese economic co-operation and technical exchanges through giving good treatment and protection to investors, their business and invested properties.

To date, China has signed such agreements with 21 countries including the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain and France. Chinese Premier Li Peng and Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita attended the signing ceremony.

Zheng Tuobin, Chinese Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, and Toshijiro Nakajima, Japanese Ambassador to China, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments.

Rate hikes cause a wave of big losses in stock markets

Central banks try to keep lid on dollar

LONDON, Aug. 28, (Reuters): The dollar starts this week sharply lower after last week's massive central bank intervention to cap its rise and dealers were split on whether America's currency had the strength to stage a new rally.

A round of interest rate hikes by six European nations on Thursday and a concerted wave of dollar sales by central banks during the week left a battered dollar at 1.8585 West German marks at Friday's close, six pence down on Monday's finish.

Strong comments from West German Bundesbank president Karl Otto Pöhl, criticising the dollar's recent surge, further undermined the US currency, which hit a 19-month high of 1.92 marks earlier in the month.

Uptrend
"The dollar's uptrend has been thwarted for the time being," said Frank Pusateri of Bank of Boston in New York.

The determination of the powerful Bundesbank to weaken the dollar has disconcerted financial markets, haunted by rising interest rates and a fear of inflation, dealers said at the weekend. Most forecast a nervous start to trading on Monday and were reluctant to predict a trend.

Depreciation
"The Bundesbank was incredibly forceful (last week)," said James O'Neill, an economist at Swiss Bank Corp in London where markets will be closed on Monday for a national holiday.

Pöhl said the central bank would do all it could to stop further mark depreciation, which analysts said appeared an overt threat of heavy intervention and/or higher interest rates.

A key factor in the dollar's future will be how far the US Federal Reserve (central bank) is prepared to raise rates to curb inflation and how far the Reagan administration is ready to go to ensure a firm dollar ahead of the November presidential election, economists said.

Investors are jittery lest interest rates now go up again in the United States, and in Japan, leading to a competitive round of increases that would crimp global economic expansion.

The West Germans, in raising their discount rate from three to 3.5 per cent last week, wanted to make Deutschmark assets more attractive and sap the dollar's strength.

Higher
Money has been attracted to it this summer as US interest rates moved higher to deal with inflation in America. But a strong dollar puts up Europe's import bills.

The consensus amongst currency watchers was for the dollar to fall in the short-run to between 1.80 and 1.85 marks before recovering to about 1.87 to 1.92 over the medium-term.

Presenting a bullish view of the dollar, Jürgen Dommermuth, a dealer at Vereins — Und Westbank in Hamburg, said, "we are already near the lower limit of the dollar's range."

Bob Bauer, senior dealer at Commerzbank AG, agreed "we could easily see the dollar back up at 1.92 marks again."

Doubtful
Other analysts were more doubtful about the dollar's ability to rebound as long as the United States still relied heavily on overseas funding for its high external deficits.

Guenter Teich, treasurer of Bank of Boston, said the dollar could fall to 1.80 marks next week and be at 1.70 by the end of the year. Chris Zwermann, currency analyst at Swiss Bank Corp in Frankfurt saw 1.73 marks by the end of the year.

Thursday's rate hikes caused a wave of big losses in stock markets where investors were alarmed by the global interest-rate rise. By Friday, however, most markets were keeping cool.

Wall Street shrugged off worries of further interest-rate hikes abroad. The Dow Jones industrial average closed ahead seven points on Friday at 2,017.

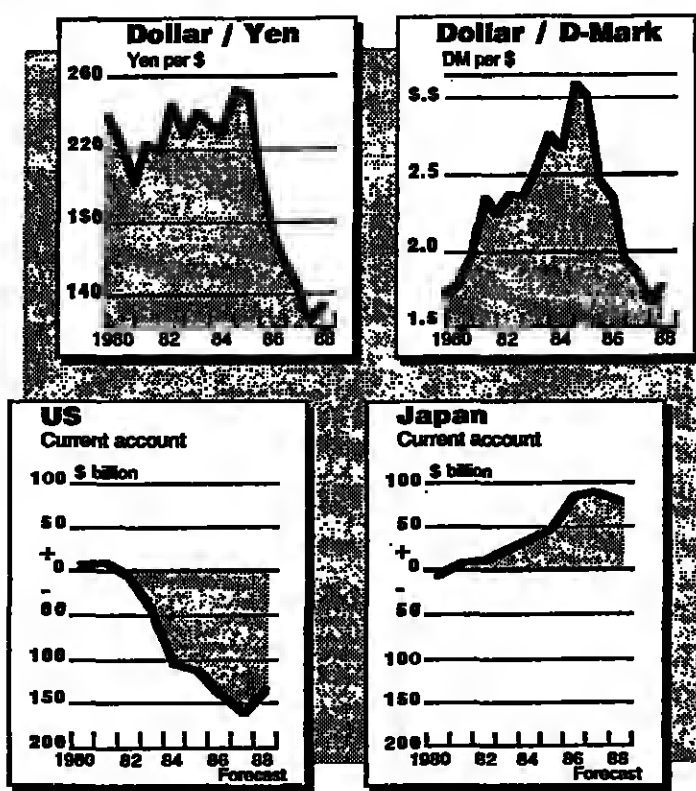
In Saturday's trading on Tokyo's Stock Exchange share prices closed higher because of bargain-hunting which focused on recently-neglected shares.

Uptrend
Dealers said the uptrend reflected Friday's Wall Street recovery. The Nikkei index rose 113.50 points, or 0.4 per cent, to 27,678.91 after tumbling 305.03 points on Friday.

A recent drop in oil prices has dampened inflation worries. But oil futures edged higher in the United States on Friday. The October contract on the New York Mercantile Exchange rose three cents to \$15.34 a barrel.

New York gold futures fell although prices ended above the day's lows after a late buying flurry. The October delivery gold contract finished down 80 cents an ounce at \$435.60 after hitting an early low of \$434.60.

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Foreign exchange system will be changed, says Nigerian leader

LAGOS, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Nigeria's system of foreign exchange auctions will soon be revamped to curb abuses and may be scrapped altogether, General Ibrahim Babangida, the military President, said yesterday.

In a wide-ranging televised address he also appealed for more support from creditors to help Nigeria service its external debt of \$27 billion which he called intolerably high.

Babangida, marking the third anniversary of the bloodless coup which brought him to power, confirmed the growing alarm in official circles about the pressure on the naira currency.

"All speculative elements, market abuse and banking malpractices will be ruthlessly penalised."

"The foreign exchange auction system will soon be overhauled," he warned.

The fortnightly foreign exchange auctions run by the Central Bank are a key component of the far-reaching economic reforms pushed through in 1986.

But a wide disparity has emerged between the cost of hard currency at the auctions and rates on the autonomous or inter-bank market run by Nigeria's booming commercial and merchant banks.

The dollar was trading for more than seven naira at the inter-bank on Friday compared with 4.5 at the last official auction where bids are largely determined by the Central Bank.

The creation of what amounts to a two-tier system is strongly opposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank whose support for Nigeria's structural adjustment is crucial.

Babangida cited reports of corrupt "leakage" of auction winnings onto the inter-bank market, netting colossal profits for the culprits.

He said the government was committed to a market value for the naira, which has devalued by more than 65 per cent in two years, but it was imperative for the currency to stabilise.

"For this purpose it may ultimately become necessary for the Central Bank to abandon the auction altogether and instead intervene directly in the inter-bank market," he said.

Such a system would mean the Central Bank becoming the major player on the market and opening dealing each day.

But bankers interviewed in Lagos said the bank would need substantial buffer funds to ensure the market's credibility.

Foreign reserves have dropped to about \$760 million from more than one billion six months ago and the bank struggles to find the \$120 million auctioned each fortnight, diplomatic sources said.

Negative
Other negative balances were on Merseyside (minus 2 per cent against the previous quarter's plus 25 per cent). Buckinghamshire and Berkshire (minus 9 per cent against plus 20 per cent) and Greater Manchester (a switch from an earlier plus 9 per cent down to minus 6 per cent).

The East Midlands dropped from plus 20 per cent to plus 2 per cent. East Anglia declined from plus 28 per cent to plus 13 per cent and the North-east eased from plus 10 per cent to a zero balance.

A balance of 57 per cent of manufacturers are still expecting turnover growth with some areas outside the South-east showing the greatest optimism.

The North-east had a positive balance of 76 per cent and Wales of 78 per cent.

A balance of 31 per cent of companies were revising investment plans upward compared to 25 per cent in the first quarter.

Employment prospects looked good in both manufacturing and the services sectors.

US agricultural exports expected to rise this year

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28, (AP): The value of US agricultural exports is expected to jump 22 per cent to a four-year high of \$34 billion this fiscal year, up from \$27.9 billion in 1986-87, the Agriculture Department said yesterday.

In terms of actual quantity, shipments were forecast at 146 million metric tons in the year that will end Sept 30, up 13 per cent from last year.

Both the value and quantity estimates were up from the previous Agriculture Department forecasts on May 26 of \$33.5 billion and 145.5 million tons.

Although the report cited no figures for subsequent years, it said export values may increase in 1988-89 due to higher prices, but the volume of shipments may decline.

The report said the rise in estimates since May stemmed from larger-than-expected exports of animal products,

slightly larger subsidised wheat exports, and higher corn prices due to the drought.

Noting that 1987-88 exports are now expected to be \$6.1 billion and 16.8 million tons, the report said, "this largely reflects reduced competitor supplies; higher prices for grains, oilseeds and cotton; and increased US export competitiveness" helped by a lower-valued dollar and the export credit guarantee programme or EEP.

Under EEP, selected countries — including the Soviet Union and China — can get wheat and other designated commodities subsidised by the US government.

The new forecast showed the value of grain exports at \$12.2 billion, up from \$11.8 billion expected in May and from 1986-87 shipments worth \$9.33 billion.

Oilseeds, mainly soybeans, were forecast at 7.6 billion, down slightly from \$7.7 billion indicated three months ago.

Advance
Allen Sinai, chief economist of the Boston Co., attributed the overall profits advance to the better-than-expected economic growth this year.

"Corporate profits have been the sensation of the year, reflecting a strong economy, rising product prices and strong production growth in manufacturing," he said.

But Sinai said he believed corporate profits would be squeezed in coming months as business costs, especially wage costs, begin to accelerate.

Among the details in the profits report: Before-tax profits jumped 8.6 per cent in the second quarter to an annual level of \$310.7 billion, following a smaller 1.5 per cent first quarter increase.

Dividend payments to stockholders rose 1.8 per cent in the second quarter to an annual rate of \$105.1 billion following a 2.0 per cent rise in the first quarter.

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World Business Summary

Oil demand in US and Japan rises sharply

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28, (OPECNA): Oil demand in the United States as measured by the amount of products supplied rose by 2.3 per cent to 17 million BPD in the four weeks ending Aug. 12, according to the energy information administration here. Administration statistics carried by Reuters news agency showed that US demand for distillates over the month rose by 6.6 per cent to 2.78 million BPD compared with the same period in 1987. However, gasoline demand was down 3.6 per cent to 7.16 million BPD while demand for residual fuel stood at 1.21 million BPD, a fall of 1.7 per cent over last year's figures. US crude oil production over the period averaged an estimated 8.15 million BPD, down 0.9 per cent over last year, while crude imports fell by 7.9 per cent to 4.94 million BPD. Refinery crude runs over the four weeks totalled 13.71 million BPD, an increase of 2.4 per cent over last year. The agency said that demand for petroleum products in the US so far this year was up 1.7 per cent to an average of 16.58 million BPD, compared with 1987, including a jump of 3.5 per cent for distillates. US crude oil production for the year so far showed a drop of 1.4 per cent to 8.37 million BPD, while oil imports stood at 4.90 million BPD, an increase of 1.5 per cent over the same period in 1987. Meanwhile, Japan's crude oil imports surged by 39.6 per cent to 138.31 million BPD in July, compared with the same month last year, the highest level recorded since August 1984. The Japanese Ministry of Trade and Industry (MITI) said that the country's largest crude supplier for the tenth consecutive month was the United Arab Emirates with 25.15 million BPD followed by Saudi Arabia (23.23 million) and Indonesia (19.40 million).

35 countries take part in Taiwan's trade fair

TAIPEI, Aug. 28, (UPI): Taiwan opened its first import fair today with exhibitors from 35 countries attending the nine-day event. Some 600 foreign visitors from five continents will occupy 350 booths at the Taipei Import Fair, on the fairgrounds at the CETRA (China External Trade Development Council) exhibition hall in Taipei. Almost 300 industrial and business associations, government and private manufacturers are represented. CETRA expects some 200,000 local visitors to attend the show. Dr. P. K. Chiang, CETRA secretary-general on Friday said the goals of the import fair are to provide other nations with an opportunity to tap into the liberalising Taiwan market, to increase economic ties with other countries, and to demonstrate the Republic of China's willingness to participate in global affairs. Premier Yo Kuo-Hwa presided over the opening ceremony on Friday. Taiwan ranks 13th in world trade. Its foreign exchange reserves totaling over \$75 billion, are second only to Japan. Economic ties have played an increasingly important role in Taiwan, which maintains formal diplomatic ties with only 13 nations. Earlier this year, the cabinet approved a \$1 billion fund to finance economic development in "friendly" developing countries. Chiang said he expects 50 developing countries to participate in the second import trade fair sponsored by CETRA in 1990.

Yugoslavia keen to boost trade ties with Iraq

BELGRADE, Aug. 28, (KUNA): The joint Iraqi-Yugoslavian Committee for Economic Co-operation started deliberations yesterday on developing trade, industrial co-operation and finding opportunities for Yugoslavian companies to take part in post-war reconstruction in Iraq. The Iraqi side was chaired by Deputy Housing Minister Mahmud Diab Al Ahmed while the Yugoslavian side was headed by Economic Undersecretary Melko Sharas. At the beginning of the meeting, the two sides asserted that the establishment of peace in Iraq and the rest of the region paves the way for stronger economic ties between Baghdad and Belgrade. The Yugoslavian official expressed his country's desire to expand bilateral co-operation and reach the same level of investment which was reported prior to the Iraq-Iran war. He said: Yugoslavia is keen to develop economic ties with Iraq, he said. His country wants to import five million tons of Iraqi crude oil yearly, the same amount Yugoslavia imported prior to the war, he said.

Yugoslavian construction companies did not leave Iraq even during dangerous battles of the Iraq-Iran war, the Yugoslav official said. Yugoslavian technicians helped the Iraqis with several reconstruction projects during the war, he added.

Sharas emphasised that his country does not want priority for Yugoslav firms operating in Iraq. The Iraqi official expressed his country's appreciation for Yugoslavia's services, and said Iraq is looking forward to strengthening co-operation and friendship with Yugoslavia. Discussing reconstruction and development in Iraq, Diab said that Iraq intends to give Yugoslavian companies the chance to join reconstruction efforts.

During the joint economic meeting, the officials formed two small work committees to review spheres of co-operation. Iraqi Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan, will arrive here Sept 1 to lead his country's side in the final session, while his Yugoslavian counterpart will lead his country's side. An economic agreement is expected to be signed between Iraq and Yugoslavia.

Falling oil income to raise UAE budget deficit

ABU DHABI, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Falling oil revenue will push the UAE 1988 budget deficit above last year's 2.76 billion dirhams (\$745 million), the Finance and Industry Ministry here said. Spending under the budget, to be released before October, will total about the same as last year's 14.4 billion dirhams (\$3.9 billion), Ministry Undersecretary Naser Al Nowais said in the latest Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce magazine. "The increase in the deficit is due to the decline in oil prices and production and the UAE's adherence to OPEC output agreements," he told the magazine. He gave no budget figures. World oil prices this year have fallen several dollars below last year, when they hovered around the official OPEC benchmark of \$18 a barrel. Industry sources estimate that UAE output in July was the highest this year at 1.4 million barrels per day (BPD), against an OPEC quota of 948,000 BPD. The UAE earned 29 billion dirhams (\$7.9 billion) in 1987 from oil exports, its major source of revenue, which for much of the year exceeded 1.5 million BPD.

Economic co-operation with Iran possible, says Hadisi

ISTANBUL, Turkey, Aug. 28, (AP): Iraqi Finance Minister Hikmet Al Omar Al Hadisi said on Wednesday that future economic co-operation is possible with Iran. "We would like to establish co-operation with all neighbouring countries, providing there is goodwill," Al Hadisi told reporters. "If we see goodwill from Iranians, we are ready to co-operate economically and we are ready to show twice as much goodwill as they will show," said Al Hadisi, who was in Turkey to attend the opening of an industrial fair at the Aegean port city of Izmir. Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Azadeh, who was visiting the capital Ankara for talks on a proposed pipeline, told reporters that the sides reach a peace agreement. Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and his Iraqi counterpart Tariq Aziz meet in officials of the two countries since the start of the Gulf war eight years ago.

Agreement could lift disputes out of political arena

US, Japan begin to explore free trade pact

TOKYO, Aug 28, (Reuters): The United States and Japan have begun to explore the possibility of a free-trade pact that would guide their economic relations into the next century.

While an agreement, if any, is still years away, officials from both sides said the effort to map out the future could prove useful in avoiding the pitfalls of the past.

Investigation

"We ought to get away from this nickel and dime way of conducting trade negotiations on one issue or a group of issues," US Ambassador to Japan Mike Mansfield said.

That approach has only spawned resentment on both sides and

has thus far done little to reduce the yawning trade gap between the two countries, analysts said.

The US International Trade Commission, acting at the behest of the Senate Finance Committee headed by Democratic vice-presidential hopeful Lloyd Bentsen, recently launched a formal investigation into the issue.

Positive

In Japan, at least four government ministries have begun to look into the question of a pact that would abolish trade barriers between the two nations. The foreign ministry is hopeful of leading a government-wide study later this year.

The ministry launched its own investigation after US Senate majority leader Robert Byrd

raised the issue with Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in January.

An interim report completed this summer adopted a positive attitude toward the idea of a free trade pact, officials said.

"Friction-driven relations aren't very healthy," a foreign ministry official said. "It may be the right time for a more constructive, more positive relationship built from a longer-range perspective."

Agreement

A free trade pact could lift disputes out of the political arena and establish a formal mechanism to deal with them.

But that does not mean Japan is without some misgivings about entering into a free trade pact

with the United States.

For one thing, officials here point to the big differences in culture and philosophy between the two nations.

For another, some Japanese officials cannot understand what Washington hopes to gain from a free trade agreement.

"Why do they want to push this idea?" asked Ichiro Surukawa, a director at the Economic Planning Agency (EPA). "If most of the trade barriers were abolished between Japan and the United States, Japan would benefit more."

He ticked off a list of products where Japan is limiting exports to America — from machine tools to automobiles.

But Washington may have

something to gain in the area of agriculture and financial services. "That may be the meat in the juice for the United States," said one Japanese official.

Pact

Some officials here also suspect Washington wants to use the threat of a bilateral pact to win concessions from Europe, from Asia's newly industrialising economies, and from other nations participating in the multilateral Uruguay trade talks.

Tokyo would be happy if talk of a pact with Washington deterred the European Economic Community (EEC) from becoming more protectionist after it becomes fully integrated in 1992.

Australian budget forecast makes economists nervous

Economy poised for another rosy year

SYDNEY, Aug 28, (Reuters): If Paul Keating's latest budget is any guide, Australia's economy is headed for another rosy year, according to reports.

But while the treasurer said the economy will grow 3.5 per cent in the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1989 — about the same as the previous year — some observers said his budget relies on optimistic projections that could signal an overheating economy.

He reiterated his forecast for inflation to fall to 4.5 per cent in the next 12 months and said it could slip to 3.4 per cent in 1990. Inflation ended the last fiscal year at 7.1 per cent.

Keating capped his budget with news that a projected record budget surplus for the current year of A\$5.47 billion (US\$4.47 billion) will enable Australia to chip away at its huge foreign debt.

The budget was in surplus by A\$2.04 billion in the year just ended, compared with a deficit of

A\$2.72 billion the prior year. "Unquestionably, a dramatically better state of affairs now exists than when I warned in 1986 of the threat of Australia degenerating to the status of a banana republic," he said.

Surplus

The projected budget surplus was in line with expectations, and reaction was muted. The Australian dollar had moved before the budget news, though it later strengthened in London. Economists said the budget will be a boost for the currency in the longer term.

Analysts said the budget likely will buoy Australian bonds at home and abroad. And while Australian stocks slipped ahead of the evening statement, analysts said the budget will benefit equities.

But some economists said Keating may be overly optimistic. "It's a risky economic policy to assume the world environment will be as friendly to Australia" in the current year as it

was in the one just ended, said Warren Bird, chief economist of Lloyds Bank NZA Ltd. Bird and others said they worry that the latest budget strategy depends too much on strong commodity prices for Australian exports such as wool, beef and metals, which buoyed the economy last year.

Prices

Figures for last year show that while export prices have been growing faster than prices of imports, the reverse has been true in volume terms. That trend is "flashing yellow," said Andrew Mohl, of Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.

The budget forecasts that the trend will continue, but if commodities soften the budget could unravel, economists said.

The budget forecast makes several economists nervous. Andre Morony, chief economist at Bankers Trust Australia Ltd., said the country "is running a big risk by allowing the economy to grow so strongly." Domestic

demand, as forecast in the budget, could push inflation above Keating's target of 4.5 per cent.

Strong domestic demand also could cause an import surge, widening the current-account deficit, which Keating forecast will shrink to A\$9.5 billion, or 3 per cent of gross domestic product, from A\$11.9 billion, or 4.1 per cent of GDP, in the last fiscal year. (The current account measures the net balance in trade of goods and services and certain fund transfers. GDP is the output of goods and services, minus foreign income.) Widening of the current-account deficit would worsen Australia's foreign debt.

Government and private borrowers owe US\$93 billion to creditors abroad. The government repaid A\$1.6 billion of foreign debt last year and plans to repay another A\$3 billion this fiscal year. But with the current-account deficit projected at A\$9.5 billion, foreign debt is likely to exceed US\$100 billion this year.

Jordan, Iraq to resolve trade crisis

AMMAN, Aug 28, (Reuters): Jordan and Iraq have reached an initial agreement on resolving a trade crisis involving letters of credit worth almost \$100 million, Jordanian Trade Ministry Secretary-General Mohammad Al Saqqaf said yesterday.

He was speaking after three days of talks with Iraqi Foreign Trade Ministry Undersecretary Qasim Abdullatif on an excess of letters of credit opened by Baghdad for Jordanian exporters.

Talks

"We have reached an agreement in principle on solving this problem... the Iraqis have promised us to honour all credits to Jordanian industrialists by the end of next month," Saqqaf told Reuters.

The two countries have now held three sessions of talks since the problem emerged about four months ago. Around 160 Jor-

danian companies were involved.

Under a protocol aimed at easing trade with cash-strapped Iraq, Jordan's Central Bank agreed in 1983 to reimburse local exporters for goods sent to Baghdad, which paid for them partly in crude oil.

But officials said letters of credit, drawn on Iraq's state-owned Rafidain Bank, were opened for goods worth \$400 to \$500 million in the first quarter of 1988, far above the year's quota of \$185 million.

Controls

The flood began after Baghdad relaxed controls on private sector imports in December, they said.

The excess was put at \$98 million after the Trade Ministry, Central Bank and Chamber of Industry sifted through the letters and found that many of the exporters did not meet official

financial standards. Saqqaf said Jordan and Iraq also agreed on how to implement their 1988 trade protocol, which envisages bilateral trade worth \$900 million equally between the two countries.

They hoped to raise the volume of trade next year through further co-operation between the Jordanian and Iraqi private sectors, he said.

Iraq is a key market for the recession-hit economy of Jordan, which staunchly supported Baghdad in its war with Iran. Jordan now hopes that an end to the war will help to revive its economy.

Trade Minister Hamdi Al Tabaa told Reuters last week that peace between Iraq and Iran would increase Iraqi investment in Jordan, reduce Jordan's unemployment rates and invigorate the contracting and banking sectors.

Plan to open stock exchange

BAHRAIN, Aug 28, (Reuters): Oman's first stock exchange will open by end of January, Commerce and Industry Minister Salem Bin Abdullah Al Ghazali said yesterday.

He told the Oman News Agency that it should stimulate trade and economic development in the sultanate.

Economic talks

DAMASCUS, Aug 28, (Reuters): Syrian Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Mohammed Imadi held talks today with Turkish Minister of State Yusuf Ozal on bilateral relations.

The official Syrian News Agency SANA quoted Ozal as saying that industrial and economic relations between the two countries had grown over the past two years.

Fed's move will fail to lower inflation, say economists

US economic expansion faces critical test

WASHINGTON, Aug 28, (Reuters): America's almost six-year-old economic expansion faces a critical test in the run-up to the November presidential elections as upward pressure on interest rates continues worldwide, private economists say.

Most economists believe the rise in US interest rates that triggered a global round of similar increases was needed to slow the booming US economy and bring down the inflation rate.

But the danger, some economists say, is that a slight miscalculation could cause far-reaching damage.

"The period ahead could be difficult," said Zaboro Sofianou, an economist with the Boston Company, an economic forecasting firm. "Countries seem to have an acceptance threshold ratio for inflation and a lot of them are reaching it."

Expansion

The current economic expansion is the pride of the Reagan White House and Republican presidential candidate George Bush is telling voters he is best suited to continue the economic prosperity.

But the Republican candidate faces the prospect of interest rates continuing to rise.

The Federal Reserve Board, continuing to label inflation as the greatest risk to overall economic health, raised the key discount rate on August 9 to 6.5 per cent from six per cent.

Moves

The move showed Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan is willing to press strong economic measures during a presidential year. But many economists believe the Fed's move will fail to lower inflation and interest rates will continue to rise.

The consumer price index, the most widely used measure of

inflation, has so far risen this year at a 4.5 per cent annual rate, compared to a 4.4 per cent rise in 1987.

Trying to fine-tune an economy is usually hazardous and some economists believe that monetary moves following the October 19 stock market crash set the stage for the present rise in inflation.

"Everyone erred following October 19," said Georgia State University economist Donald Ratajczak.

He said the Fed eased the credit supply following the crash in the belief that consumption would be sharply curtailed and the United States would be

thrown into a recession or even a depression.

"It didn't happen and we're feeling the impact now," he said, adding "now they're trying to reverse that impact, it's stop and go and it's dangerous."

Experts

Many experts believe a public disagreement between the United States and West Germany helped trigger fears of an interest rate battle before the October 19 Wall Street debacle that saw the Dow Jones industrial average plummet 508 points.

For Reagan administration policy makers, the current situation is nerve-racking.

They are hoping to get through the next two and a half months without an economic calamity which would prevent Vice-President Bush from being elected to the White House.

"They are wholly focused on avoiding any disruption before the election," said Fred Bergsten of the Institute for International Economics.

Action

He said other economies were going along with this on the grounds that the Reagan administration is in no position to take forceful action and without US leadership it would be difficult to accomplish any major new co-ordinated measures.

Kuwait dinar deposits display easier tone

KUWAIT dinar interbank deposits displayed an easier tone yesterday in a liquid market but trade remained thin amid slack demand typical during the European weekend.

Some dealers reported trade in one-month deposits and in government Treasury bills on the secondary market, but they said there was no significant activity.

Short-term funds remained well-offered, with offers for overnight and tomorrow-next declining to 1/2 per cent from one per cent on Saturday. Spot-next was indicated at two, one per cent more.

An influx of funds from end-of-month salary payments and a wave of dollar selling against the Kuwaiti currency has helped exert downward pressure on rates during the past week.

One-month deposits eased 1/8 point to 6-1/8, 5-7/8 per cent while three and six-months were little changed at six, 6-1/4 per cent and 6-3/8, 1/8 per cent respectively.

The Central Bank left its dinar exchange rate unchanged as usual on Sunday at 0.28465/75 to the dollar. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of 0.28474/78.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal deposits were steady yesterday in a very dull market due to the European weekend and a bank holiday on Monday in London, a major offshore centre.

Dealers said rates were not affected by a fortnightly issue of 1.5 billion riyals (\$400 million) worth of Saudi government bonds, announced on Saturday and due to settlement on September 5. Banks must submit bids for the one to five-year maturities by Monday. One-week funds were indicated unchanged at 8-1/2, eight per cent. One to six-months were little changed at 8-5/8, 7/16 per cent, 8-7/8, 3/4 per cent and 9-1/4, 1/8 per cent respectively. The spot riyal firmed to 3.7495/7500 to the dollar from quotes of 3.7498/7503 on Saturday.

Arab Fund loan for South Yemen

ABU DHABI, Aug 28, (Reuters): The Arab Monetary Fund is lending South Yemen 6.1 million Arab accounting dinars (\$25 million) to help to finance budget and trade deficits, the Emirates news agency WAM reported today.

It said the loan, carrying interest of between 5.2 and 6.4 per cent, brought the total lent to South Yemen by the Abu Dhabi-based fund to 23.1 million dinars (\$9.3 million).

WAM said the loan agreement was signed in Damascus, where monetary officials of several Arab countries and organisations ended a conference today.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.120	1.120	1.120	1.110	95000	8
GULF BANK	0.450	0.445	0.450	0.445	630000	26
COMMERCIAL BK	0.335	0.330	0.335	0.330	950000	33
AHLI BANK	0.405	0.400	0.405	0.400	1600000	48
B.K.N.E.	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.405	500000	11
K.R.E.B.	0.420	---	---	---	---	---
BURGAM BANK	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.325	810000	31
K.F.HOUSE	0.530	0.540	0.540	0.530	200000	12
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.176	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.174	---	---	---	---	---
CON.FACILITIES	0.500	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIAH INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	120000	2
INV. PEARL KUT	0.110	0.108	0.110	0.108	1320000	17
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KUT INSURANCE	0.730	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.370	0.380	0.380	0.380	70000	2
AHLIAH INS. CO.	0.580	---	---	---	---	---
HABRA INS. CO.	0.455	---	---	---	---	---
REAL EST SECTOR						
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.248	0.244	0.246	0.244	40000	2
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.114	---	---	---	---	---
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.214	0.216	0.216	0.216	20000	1
SALAHIA R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
KUT PROJECTS	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.092	1240000	12
KUT R.E.I.COM	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.560	---	---	---	---	---
KUT N.P. IND.	0.335	---	---	---	---	---
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.225	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.415	0.415	0.415	0.415	130000	4
N.A.N.T. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	1.080	1.080	1.090	1.080	20000	4
K.PH.IND. CO.	0.212	---	---	---	---	---
CON.MARINE	0.350	---	---	---	---	---
K.SH.REP.CO.	0.048	0.047	0.047	0.047	80000	1
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.090	0.089	0.089	0.089	80000	1
K.N.C. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
KUT HOTELS CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.176	0.172	0.176	0.172	240000	7
CON.MKT.CMPX.	0.019	0.019	0.019	0.019	160000	2
MOBILE TELE.	0.385	0.390	0.390	0.380	260000	10
KUT COMPUTER	0.182	0.184	0.184	0.182	80000	2
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.232	---	---	---	---	---
UNTO FISHERIES	0.154	---	---	---	---	---
UNTO POULTRY	0.226	---	---	---	---	---
KUT FOODS	0.325	0.315	0.315	0.315	60000	2
AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KUT SECTOR						
BIN.INTER.BK	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	200000	3
BIN.N.EAST.BK	0.050	0.050	0.051	0.050	120000	2
UNTO GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	2050000	19
A.G.IV.CORP	0.036	0.035	0.035	0.035	1760000	8
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.G.B.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---

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GULF INTL INS. 0.009 --- --- --- --- ---

ARAB INT. CO. 0.055 --- --- --- --- ---

SHARJAH INS. 0.000 --- --- --- --- ---

GULF UNION INS. 0.070 --- --- --- --- ---

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

B.GULF MEDICAL 0.027 0.027 0.027 0.027 80000 1

C.R.K.WHITE CHMT 0.022 --- --- --- --- ---

D-AJMAN CEMENT 0.007 --- --- --- --- ---

D-FUJAIRAH CEMENT 0.008 0.008 0.008 0.008 400000 1

F-SHARJAH CEMENT 0.010 --- --- --- --- ---

G-GULF CEMENT 0.016 --- --- --- --- ---

H-UM QATWAIN 0.021 --- --- --- --- ---

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13 Maersk Astro Behbehani 2412085

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URDU

لندن میں مقیم بعض پاکستانیوں کی برائیتیں شہر بنی کا شہر

پاکستان اور برطانیہ میں موجود پاکستانیوں کے درمیان ایک ایسا جھگڑا ہے، جسے دیکھ کر ہر پاکستانی دلچسپی سے دیکھتا ہے۔ یہ جھگڑا پاکستانیوں کی برائیتیں شہر بنی کا شہر بنی کے لیے ہے۔

لندن - ۲۸ اگست (کھ) لندن کے دو ممتاز اخبارات نے پاکستان کے ساتھ برطانیہ میں مقیم پاکستانیوں کی برائیتیں شہر بنی کا شہر بنی کے لیے ہے۔

عرب ٹائمز

۱۶ محرم ۱۴۰۹ھ - ۲۹ اگست ۱۹۸۸ء - جیت ایڈیٹر احمد جبار

مغربی بریتانیہ میں قضائی مظاہر کے دوران متہملیوں میں تصادم، ۳۴ افراد ہلاک

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ایڈیشن: منیہ دور کے حکمرانوں سے تعاون نہیں کرے گی، ولی خان

قائمہ صدر جماعت بنیادوں پر انتخابات کرانے کا اعلان کر کے، حکومت نے ایک طرف تو پاکستانیوں کی برائیتیں شہر بنی کا شہر بنی کے لیے ہے۔

دور رس اعلیٰ کی سرگرمیوں پر بے نظیر بھرتی کا اظہار تشویش

اسلام آباد - ۲۸ اگست (کھ) پاکستان پیپلز پارٹی کے صدر بے نظیر بھٹو نے دور رس اعلیٰ کی سرگرمیوں پر بے نظیر بھرتی کا اظہار تشویش کیا ہے۔

برائین باغی طلباء یو ایس اور یو ایس طلباء کو بھرتی کر لیا

ریٹنگ: برائین باغی طلباء یو ایس اور یو ایس طلباء کو بھرتی کر لیا

ریٹنگ: برائین باغی طلباء یو ایس اور یو ایس طلباء کو بھرتی کر لیا

سویت امریکہ اور اسرائیل دور رس خارجہ اجلاس کی تیاریاں

کویت - ۲۸ اگست (کھ) اسرائیلی وزیر خارجہ اور سویت امریکہ کے وزیر خارجہ کے درمیان دور رس خارجہ اجلاس کی تیاریاں ہو رہی ہیں۔

ایٹمی اسلحہ کی تیاری میں بھارت کو پاکستان پر فزیت حاصل ہے 'امریکی رپورٹ'

بھارت ڈیڑھ دو روز میں اور پاکستان چھ تین ماہ میں سالانہ تیار کر سکتا ہے

ایٹمی اسلحہ کی تیاری میں بھارت کو پاکستان پر فزیت حاصل ہے 'امریکی رپورٹ'

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NOAH AND AGASSI REACH HAMLET CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

Lendl and Becker fall in semifinals



Noah: upset Lendl

JERICHO, New York, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Yannick Noah of France upset Ivan Lendl in the semifinals of the Hamlet Challenge Cup tennis tournament yesterday, jolting the Czechoslovakian just days before he begins the defence of his US Open title.

In the other semifinal, American Andre Agassi won his 21st consecutive match yesterday, beating Boris Becker of West Germany 7-6 (7-1) 6-3.

Climb
Agassi's torrid pace has seen him climb from a world ranking in the 20s earlier this year to number four now.

Noah, ranked seventh in the world, produced 11 aces in eliminating the top seeded Lendl 6-3 6-2 in just 59 minutes.

Lendl, looking for his fourth consecutive title at the US Open, said the loss yesterday would not affect his preparation for the New York tournament which begins tomorrow.

No one has won more than three consecutive US Open titles since American Bill Tilden won his fourth in 1923. He went on to win two more in a row.

"I have always used this week to get ready for the Open," said Lendl, who lost in the Hamlet quarterfinals last year and then went on to win the Open title.

"I have had three good matches here. It's always better to win than lose, but I'm ready," Lendl said. "Noah played very good, but if I played my best this week I'd be worried."

Noah broke Lendl's service in the eighth game of the first set and in the third and seventh games of the second set.

Noah rallied from 0-30 in the third game of the first set and from 15-40 in the sixth game of the second set.

"I served very well, the best I have served in a long time," Noah said. "It was a good match against Ivan. He's never easy."

Agassi, who was to play Noah

for the first time in this evening's final, avenged a loss to Becker last March.

"This time Boris came in on my second service only twice," Agassi said. "My service has improved. I feel more like I dominate a match."

Becker said he "was flat. I was moving slow. Agassi has improved. He has more confidence and with confidence you can hit any ball to the line."

Becker, ranked fifth in the world and seeded third here, missed one break point in the first set, as they went on service to the tiebreak.

Point

The West German, ranked fifth in the world, won the first point of the tiebreak and Agassi won 15 of the next 16 points to run out the first set 15-0 and take a 2-0, 15-0 lead in the second set.

Agassi, seeded second, rallied from 15-40 in the third game and from 30-40 in the fifth game of the second set to eliminate Becker.

Graf and Tauziat in final

MAHWAH, New Jersey, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Steffi Graf of West Germany was in her best form yesterday, extending her winning streak to 27 consecutive matches as she crushed Helena Sukova, 6-1 6-1 in semifinals of the \$200,000 Mahwah Classic.

In a night semifinal match, 34th-ranked Nathalie Tauziat of France came from behind in each set and upset 15th-ranked Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-4 6-3.

Maleeva broke Tauziat in the first game of each set but Tauziat was unfazed, using a potent forehand shot down the line to continually open up the court for winning points.

It was Tauziat's second upset in as many days. She eliminated fourth-seed Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union in the quarterfinals on Friday.

Process

Graf has beaten Tauziat five straight times, losing only 18 games in the process.

Graf, who stands on the threshold of winning the Grand Slam at the upcoming US Open, was devastating in beating the Czechoslovakian star, ranked seventh in the world, in just 50 minutes. Graf won the first five games and the last six games.

"If I play this way, I don't think anybody can beat me," said the 19-year-old Graf.

"I thought it would be a harder match but I played too well and she wasn't able to win many points in each set."

Graf, who has dropped only a set to Martina Navratilova in the final at Wimbledon during her



Graf: crushed Sukova

winning streak, has a chance to surpass the \$1 million mark for the year if she wins the \$40,000 top prize here this evening. The West German star, winner of seven tournaments in 1988, enters the title round with earnings of \$969,273.

"It's a good feeling when I'm playing this way, it's a real joy," said Graf, whose only losses in 55 matches this year have been two defeats to doubles partner Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

In the first set, Graf broke Sukova in the second game on an approach shot by the Czech that went wide and in the fourth game

when a solid fore hand return produced a back hand error by the underdog. Sukova finally won her first game when she held in the sixth with a fine backhand volley. Graf overpowered her to close it out in the seventh game at 30 to end the first set in 23 minutes.

Sukova said she felt powerless against the deep penetrating shots being unleashed by Graf.

"I tried to attack off the second serve and that didn't work," said the 23-year-old Sukova. "I came to the net as often as I could but her passing shots were too good."

BOXING

Tyson wants 'charity' fight with Green to the finish

NEW YORK, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Undisputed heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, who broke his right hand in a street fight with Mitch Green this week, was quoted yesterday as saying he wants to fight Green to the finish, for charity.

"I'll never fight him in a regular fight. The rules have to be that only one guy walks out of the ring," Tyson was quoted yesterday by the New York Post.

"I'm talking about a fight to the finish, a fight where one guy is really knocked out," Tyson said.

A student of boxing history, Tyson has often expressed admiration for boxers from the turn of the century who would fight until one was knocked out. "It has to be for charity," said Tyson, who suffered a hairline fracture of his hand when he hit Green outside an all-night clothing store at about 4:30 am on Tuesday.

Exhibition

"I'll never fight him in a regular fight. But I'd fight him in an exhibition, a warmup bout," said Tyson about fellow-American Green.

Tyson, 22, who who defeated Green by a points decision in 1986, claims he was defending himself when he hit Green in the face. Green, who required several stitches at a hospital, charged Tyson with assault.

Tyson's injury has jeopardized his scheduled defence against Briton Frank Bruno at London's Wembley stadium on October 8.

Green agreed to drop assault charges against Tyson after Bill Clayton, Tyson's manager, sent a letter offering the 32-year-old Green a title shot should he be ranked in the top 10.

Yuh retains WBA junior flyweight title

SEOUL, Aug. 28. (Reuters): South Korean champion Yuh Myung-Woo hammered Thailand's Punt Ouythnakorn to a sixth-round knockout to retain his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior flyweight title today.

It was the unbeaten champion's ninth successful defence of the title he won from Joey Olivo of the United States in December 1985.

Ouythnakorn went down after taking a stinging left hook to the body near the end of the sixth round of their scheduled 12-round bout in the southern city of Pusan.

US referee Eddie Eckert counted him out just two seconds before the close of the round.

Dropping

Yuh said afterwards: "I felt I could knock him out at the end of the fourth round when he began dropping his excellent cover and started swinging punches."

The Thai came out powerfully in the third and fourth rounds, scoring heavily with one-two combination blows.

Yuh turned the tide in the fifth, breaking the challenger's attacking pattern with a string of hard straight punches.

The Korean was in command for the rest of the fight, pursuing his opponent and shaking him repeatedly with flurries of blows.

Today's victory improved the South Korean's professional record to 28 wins, nine by knockout.

Steelers founder

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 28. (AP): Art Rooney Sr., founder of pro football's Pittsburgh Steelers, was buried yesterday following a funeral service attended by national football club owners, former players and fans.

Gubicza takes Royals past Twins

NEW YORK, Aug. 28. (AP): Mark Gubicza doesn't think of himself as a strikeout pitcher, but that didn't stop him from setting a club record last night for the Kansas City Royals.

"That's a record I never thought I'd get because my fastball is not the high fastball on which you get a lot of strikeouts," said Gubicza after striking out 14 batters in the Royals' 4-1 victory over the Minnesota Twins.

Among other American League Games, California trounced New York 12-0, Oakland beat Baltimore 5-1, Texas defeated Toronto 5-3, and Chicago downed Cleveland 4-1. Detroit played at Milwaukee and Boston at Seattle in late games.

Gubicza's strikeout total broke the Kansas City club record jointly held by Steve Busby and Dennis Leonard, who struck out 13 batters in a game on two occasions.

"Tonight, I had a real good slider and (catcher) Jamie Quirk stayed with it," Gubicza said. "I'd just as soon get 27 ground balls. My slider was my best pitch, because by fastball was sinking and I couldn't get it over."

The right-hander scattered six hits in pitching one of the best games of his career.

In posting his 11th victory in his last 13 decisions since May 31, Gubicza, 16-7, walked only three batters.

Danny Tartabull supported Gubicza's pitching with a two-

run homer in the fourth off Bert Blyleven, 9-12.

In Anaheim, California, Terry Clark pitched a seven-hitter for his first Major-League shutout and the California Angels got a club-record seven consecutive hits during a nine-run second inning, beating the slumping New York Yankees 12-0.

Oakland's Todd Burns and Greg Cadaret combined on a seven-hitter and Luis Polonia hit a pair of run-scoring singles, leading the A's past Baltimore 5-1. Cal Ripken's 22nd home run gave Baltimore the lead in the fifth before Oakland went ahead in the second.

For Texas, Ruben Sierra hit two home runs to lead the Rangers to a 5-3 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays. The Rangers broke a 2-2 tie in the fourth inning of Jeff Kunkel's leadoff homer and went on to their seventh victory in nine games.

Jerry Reuss scattered seven hits and Dave Gallagher extended his hitting streak to seven straight singles in leading the Chicago White Sox to a 4-1 rain-delayed victory over the Cleveland Indians.

In Milwaukee, Roh Deer homered, with two outs in the bottom of the 12th, giving the Milwaukee Brewers a 6-5 win over the Division-leading Detroit Tigers. Earlier, the Brewers had scored two runs in the eighth and two in the ninth to tie the game at 5-5.

Seattle's Scott Bradley hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning off reliever Lee Smith as the Mariners rallied from a five-

run deficit to defeat the Boston Red Sox 8-6.

The Red Sox had taken an early 5-0 lead with the help of a four-run third inning highlighted by Todd Benzing's three-run double and still led 6-5 before the Mariners rallied in the eighth.

New York Mets manager Davey Johnson made all the right moves last night.

Ron Darling allowed five hits in 7.2 innings and Howard Johnson had a two-run single in the first inning as the Mets beat the San Francisco Giants 2-1 last night for their fifth straight victory. It was the Giants' fourth loss in a row.

Elsewhere in the National League, Cincinnati beat St. Louis 3-2. Montreal defeated San Diego 4-0. Los Angeles downed Philadelphia 4-2. Chicago blanked Atlanta 5-0, and Houston got by Pittsburgh 3-1.

Darling, 13-9, struck out three and walked one. Randy Myers pitched the final 1 1/3 innings for his 20th save. In their last five games, the Mets have allowed four runs.

Error

With one out in the Giants' eighth, Brett Butler singled to right and moved to second on Mookie Wilson's error on the play. One out later, Myers came on and got Will Clark to ground out to shortstop.

"It was a tough hook on Darling," Johnson said. "I wanted to get Randy to face the left-hander (Will Clark). I definitely would have liked to see Ronnie finish, but the situation called for Myers."

Taiwanese take Little League title

WILLIAMSPORT, Pennsylvania, Aug. 28. (AP): Chen-Lung Yu threw a one-hitter against Pearl City, Hawaii, and led Tai Chung, Taiwan, to a 10-0 victory in the 42nd Little League World Series yesterday, the fifth consecutive Far East team to win the tournament.

"He was really throwing hard," Pearl City coach Richard Numata said. "I guess he was a little bit too strong for us."

Yu pitched all six innings, striking out 10 while walking one. He retired the last 17 batters in order.

Chris Yoshimoto had the only hit for Pearl City, a community of 40,000 people near Pearl Harbor. He reached safely with one out in the first inning on a slow roller in front of the plate.

Manager Tai-Yuan Lai said Yu picked up confidence as the game went along.

"In the first inning he was not as stable as he was afterwards," said Lai, who managed the 1981 Little League champion from Tai Chung.

Wei-Chih Chen led Tai

Chung's offense, going 4-for-4 with a three-run homer.

Chen singled in the first and third innings, belted a three-run homer in the fourth and singled in the fifth.

Tai Chung, a city of 700,000 people in central Taiwan, scored in every inning but the first and sixth, amassing 14 hits against four Pearl City pitchers.

Pearl City starter Ryan Morioka was the losing pitcher. He allowed two runs on two hits in one-plus innings, using mostly a curveball.

Australian wins marathon swim

NEW YORK, Aug. 28. (AP): Australian Shelley Taylor-Smith won the Manhattan island marathon swim for the third straight year yesterday, swimming 28.5 miles around the island in 7 hours, 27 minutes and 44 seconds.

Thirty-seven swimmers entered somewhat choppy water at the Battery at 7:10 am. (1110 GMT) swam up the East River and Harlem River, then down the Hudson back to the Battery.

Paylor-Smith, 27, of Kingsley, was about three minutes off her record time in the event.

English League managers envy Dalglish's selection problem

LONDON, Aug. 28. (Reuters): Liverpool boss Kenny Dalglish has a selection problem which will make him the envy of every other manager in the English League.

He must decide soon who is to make way in his multi-talented side for Ian Rush, one of the world's deadliest strikers.

John Aldridge appeared the obvious choice, despite scoring 26 goals in his first season as Rush's replacement after Liverpool's favourite son had moved on to richer pickings with Juventus in the Italian League.

But Aldridge has shown that he has no intention of fading quietly into the background.

Title

After opening the season with two goals in the Charity Shield against Wimbledon, Aldridge went one better yesterday with a hat-trick as Liverpool began the defence of their League title with a 3-0 win over Charlton.

Rush, back at Anfield after an unhappy year with Juventus, viewed Aldridge's predatory touch near goal from the substitutes' bench for 71 minutes yesterday before replacing England international Peter Beardsley.

Dalglish, faced by a barrage of questions about Rush at the post-match press conference, was at pains to first sing the praises of hat-trick hero Aldridge.

"I've had as much pleasure out of him scoring as he did at getting the goals," the manager said. "He scored an original hat-trick



Aldridge: five goals in two matches

—One with his head, one with his left foot and one with his right."

Dalglish refused to be drawn on the speculation regarding Aldridge's Anfield future while



Rush: one of the best in the world

the player himself, seemingly unmoved by all the attention being lavished on Rush, said the team's win was more important than his own hat-trick.



Rush: one of the best in the world

Charlton manager Lennie Lawrence was honest enough to admit that his side were "simply outclassed."

He said: "We are in the same

Aldridge was one of three men who play for the heavyweight band of Liverpool clubs to mark the first day of the League season with hat-tricks.

Toffy Cottee scored after 38 seconds of his League debut for Everton and went on to collect two more in a 4-0 drubbing of Newcastle while Arsenal's Alan Smith plundered three goals in the 5-1 defeat of FA Cup holders Wimbledon.

Cottee, who cost Everton £2.5 million (\$4.2 million) from West Ham, said: "I never dreamed I would get a start like this—it's a fairy tale really."

"I told the lads I was a slow starter and then I go and score with my first touch. They've given me a bit of stick for that."

Critics

"Had it not been for (goalkeeper) Dave Beasant we could have had seven or eight."

Arsenal manager George Graham was delighted for Smith who has had his fair share of critics since moving to Highbury from Leicester.

"Alan's not a high-profile player and doesn't get the recognition he deserves," said Graham. "But he's a good no-nonsense finisher. He took his chances well."

Arsenal's superiority was such that Wimbledon manager Bobby Gould said they were London's best bet to break the Merseyside stranglehold on the championship — won for the past seven seasons by either Liverpool or Everton.

After losing the first game in 10 minutes Dittmar led 6-2 in the second without being able to finish off.

The tall, slim Pakistani excelled with his drop shots and retrieving skills.

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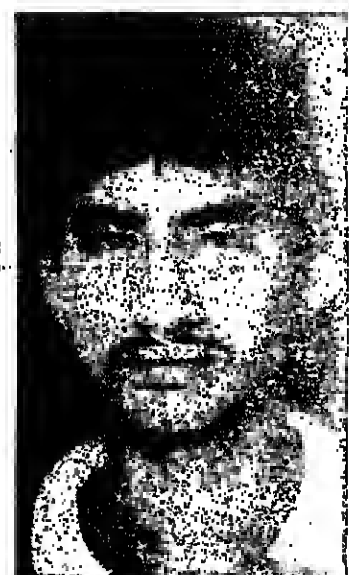
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Japanese clinch soccer crown

TOKYO, Aug. 28. (AP): Wataru Itano scored twice in the second half as the Japanese National team today beat a South Korean team from Pusan 2-0 in the final match to win the second International Soccer Games.

South Korea finished second in the eight-team competition for boys aged 12 and younger at Tokyo's Nishigaoka soccer stadium before 8,500 spectators.

The Australian team from Melbourne triumphed 1-0 over a Chinese team from Nanjing, with Danny Madaroski scoring the game's only goal in the second five-minute extra time.



Jansher: close win

AUCKLAND, Aug. 28. (Reuters): World number one Jansher Khan of Pakistan today won a brilliant recovery by Australian Chris Dittmar to win the New Zealand Open men's squash title 9-0 7-5 9-9 7.

Jansher raced away to a two game lead before the left-handed Dittmar fought back to level the score and at 8-7 to Jansher in the fifth game with Dittmar serving, the match was in the balance.

It was the closest Dittmar, the world number three, had come to defeating Jansher after several tough previous encounters and later blamed his loss on the poor start.

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SPORTS

Clarke takes Surrey past Lancashire

LONDON, Aug. 28, (Reuters): West Indian fast bowler Sylvester Clarke grabbed a 10-wicket match haul for the second time this season as Surrey beat Lancashire by an innings and one run in their English county cricket match at the Oval yesterday.

Clarke took six for 60 as Lancashire lost their last eight wickets for 96 to be all out for 246 in their second innings with more than a day of their four-day match remaining. The paceman took four for 29 as Lancashire made a meagre first innings total of 84.

Clarke did not have to bowl short in make the ball fly off a pitch which had developed uneven bounce and Graeme Fowler, who defied the Surrey attack for three hours, had already been struck on the helmet before he was finally dismissed for 97.

Championship leaders Kent, needing 235 to win, face a difficult target on the final day of their match against Sussex at Maidstone after losing four wickets for 76 in their second innings.

Highest

Paul Parker's fifth century of the season helped Sussex to a second innings 359, their highest score of the season, as they staged a fightback after trailing by 49 runs.

Parker's 124 off 181 balls included 18 boundaries and he shared in a second wicket stand of 168 with Neil Lenham who made 74.

However, it was a day of frustration for second-placed Worcestershire, who are 16 points behind Kent, as rain prevented any play in their match against Warwickshire at Worcester.

Roh Bailey's third century of the season enabled Northamptonshire to build up a potentially match-winning lead over Derbyshire at Northampton.

He hit 13 fours in his 110 as Northants reached 293 for seven in their second innings, a lead of 226.

Sri Lanka face difficult task

LONDON, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Sri Lankan captain Ranjan Madugalle said his side faced a near impossible task in trying to avoid defeat in the Cricket Test against England at Lord's.

With two days to play, Sri Lanka are 92 for two in their second innings, still needing 143 to make England hat again.

"I've not brought any magicians along," Madugalle said.

"But we will certainly try to get out of the cold with the eight wickets remaining and certainly intend to do a lot better than we did in the first innings."

England skipper Graham Gooch said his team's total of 429 had fallen short of the target he would have liked.

"Ideally I would have liked to have seen us bat throughout the first two sessions, built up a lead of 300 and then put them in shortly after tea," he said.

"We didn't quite get enough but even so 235 is a fair lead and we are still in a very strong position to win the match."

PROST CONCEDES WORLD TITLE TO TEAM-MATE

Senna wins Belgian GP to take clear lead

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Frenchman Alain Prost said his world title hopes had all but ended today after McLaren team-mate Ayrton Senna established a clear lead in the Drivers' Championship for the first time with a convincing win in the Belgian Grand Prix.

Prost finished 30 seconds behind Senna in second place for the third consecutive race, then effectively conceded the title to the Brazilian, who scored his fourth successive victory in typically remorseless style.

"I think it's over," said Prost. "I know it is not over mathematically, but I cannot really hope to win four of five races. That would be too difficult."

Deserves

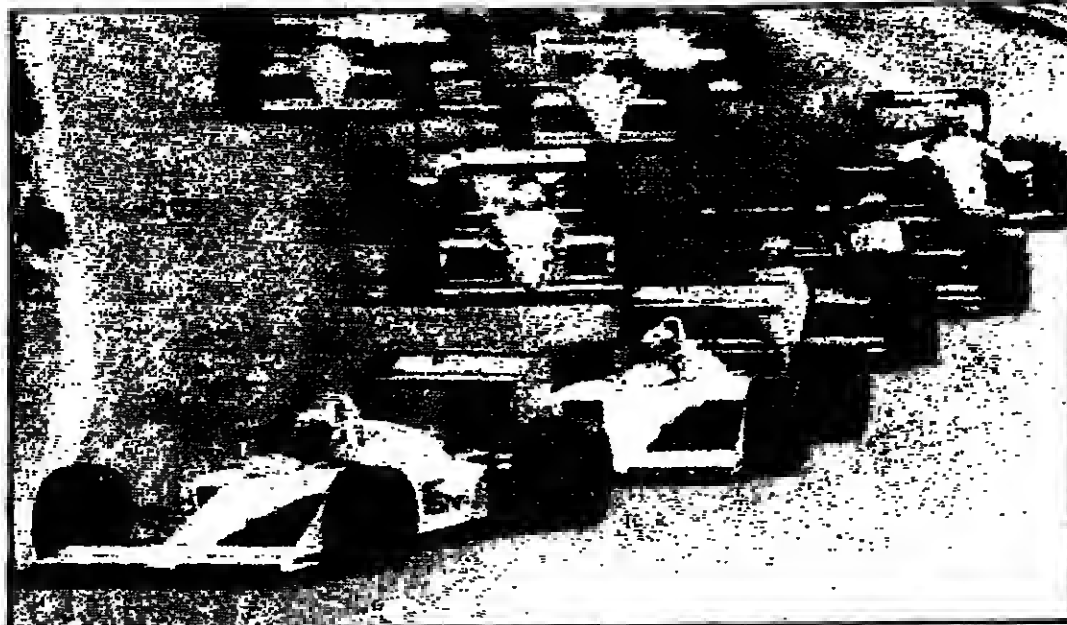
"I think Ayrton is going to win the World Championship and deserves to, for what he has done this year and the last two or three years."

"Ayrton has had a fantastic season and I am not stupid. The pressure will be off me now."

On a rare dry afternoon in the Ardennes, Senna, starting from pole position for the 25th time, was beaten off the grid by Prost, who swept head at the La Source hairpin.

But he quickly recovered, regained the lead on the opening lap and went on to claim his sixth win in seven races, seventh of the season and 13th of his career.

Senna's victory lifted him to 75 points in the title race, three ahead of Prost, who also trails



Prost is followed by Senna and Gerhard Berger as they take the first curve. (Reuters wirephoto)

more significantly in victories — seven to four.

Senna and Prost were followed home by the Benetton of Belgian Thierry Boutsen and Italian Alessandro Nannini.

It was a fine way for Benetton to celebrate their 100th Grand Prix and Ford their 300th as Formula One engine suppliers.

Italian Ivan Capelli, eighth with eight laps to go, fought his way to fifth place for March ahead of world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil, who was sixth in a Lotus.

Senna's remarkable sequence of success helped him and his all-

conquering McLaren team establish two major records.

His seven wins drew him level with Prost and Brion Jim Clark in sharing the record for the most victories in a single season. With five races to go, Senna is almost certain to establish a new landmark.

McLaren's eighth one-two finish of the season — they have won all 11 races — helped them break their own points record for a single season in the Constructors' Championship.

The old record stood at 143.5, set by Prost and Austrian Niki Lauda in 1984. Senna and Prost,

with five races to go, have already totalled 147 points.

Once Senna and Prost had settled into their familiar positions at the head of the field only one result was likely today, particularly when both Ferraris were forced to retire.

Austrian Gerhard Berger pulled out with an electrical problem after nine laps and Italian Michele Alboreto with a blown engine eight laps from the end when he was third.

Both Ferraris were using a new generation turbo engine, designed to produce improved fuel economy, for the first time.



Senna raises his trophy after winning the Grand Prix. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lawson regains 500cc world title

BRNO, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 28, (Reuters): American Eddie Lawson regained the 500cc world motorcycle championship today with a cool, calculated ride into second place at the Czechoslovak Grand Prix.

Lawson rode a clever race, climbing up the field from seventh at the start to finish behind reigning world champion Wayne Gardner of Australia.

Gardner was in dominant form on his Honda, taking a big lead on the first lap and never coming under pressure again.

But despite his victory he is 20 points behind Lawson with one

race still scheduled. He could still equal the points tally of Lawson, the 1986 champion, by winning next month's Brazilian Grand Prix, if the American does not score at all.

But Lawson would still take the title because he has scored six wins this year, while Gardner has taken only four and victories are the deciding factor in case of a point tie.

Shooting

"Everything worked fine," said Lawson after the race. "We got second place and that's what we were shooting for. Finally we made it. It has been a long, hard

season."

Lawson has scored in every race this season, living up to his nickname of 'Steady Eddie'.

Yesterday's cancellation of the Argentine Grand Prix, which should have been the second last round of the season, finally put the title out of Gardner's reach.

Asked if he was disappointed that the cancellation had made it impossible for him to overhaul Lawson, Gardner said: "It was a remote chance. Next year we'll come back and have another go."

Third was the Yamaha of American Wayne Rainey, who

scored his first Grand Prix win in Britain earlier this month. He is certain of third place in the overall standings.

Outside the 500cc race, Spaniard Jorge Martinez was in a class of his own. He came to Brno with unbeatable championship leads in both the 800cc and 125cc classes but was not satisfied to leave it at that. To cap an outstanding season he won both races, the last of the season, on Derbi bikes.

More Spaniards took the top places in the 250cc race. Juan Garriga rode his Yamaha to victory ahead of the Honda of Sito Pons.

Ballesteros scores easy victory

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Aug. 28, (Reuters): British Open champion Seve Ballesteros fired a course record-equaling 62 to win the West German Open golf title by five strokes today and go \$50,000 (\$85,000) clear at the top of the European money list.

The magnificent Spaniard, who also has the Majorca and Scandinavian titles under his belt this year, came from three behind overnight leader Gordon Brand Jr of Britain to beat him by five strokes with a 21-under-par total of 263.

Ballesteros said: "There's no such thing as the perfect round of golf but I came close today. I was very aggressive — I played golf like my old friend Franz Becken-

bauer played soccer."

"It's nice to be so far ahead in the money list but I'm playing only a limited number of tournaments and it will be difficult to finish number one for the fifth time."

The Spaniard's third successive European triumph came with a round of seven birdies and an eagle and earned him top prize of over \$47,000 (\$80,000). That pushed his season's European earnings past \$257,000.

Ending

Brand shot 70, a double bogey six at the 13th dashing his hopes. For 268 and second prize of \$31,000 (\$52,000), ending a stroke clear of countryman Bill Longmuir, who shot 64, and Australian Mike Clayton, who

had two birdies and an eagle in the last four holes for a 65.

Ballesteros earned his British caddie Ian Wright a bonus with a 20-foot last green birdie putt. It was his \$5,000 gold watch for the best round of the week — his inward 30 clinched it — and he handed it to Wright, who gave him the correct line on the putt.

Scottish golfer Colin Montgomerie shot 70 for joint 25th place on 275 to win World Cup and Dunhill Cup places for Scotland in his first season as a professional.

New Zealand's Frank Nobilo shot 68 to share 10th place with Australian Peter Senior and American Mike Smith in Frankfurt and South African Jeff Hawkes finished with a 64 to end in a group one further back.

Alen wins 1,000 Lakes Rally for sixth time

JYVASKYLA, Finland, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Markku Alen of Finland, driving a Lancia Integrale, profited from the misfortune of fellow-Finns Juha Kankkunen to win the 1,000 Lakes Motor Rally for the sixth time today.

Swede Mikael Ericsson, also in a Lancia Integrale, finished second and Franco's Didier Auriol was third in a Ford Sierra Cosworth.

Alen, whose total time for the 39 stages was four hours 35 minutes 29 seconds, had trailed Kankkunen, in a Toyota Celica, by three seconds after 33 stages.

But Kankkunen, world champion in 1986 and 1987 and seeking to win this event for the first time, was forced to retire during the next special stage with gearbox problems.

Up to that point the Finns had been within seconds of each other throughout the race. Kankkunen led by 19 seconds after Friday's 12 stages but trailed Alen by 11 seconds midway through yesterday's punishing 16 hours of rallying.

Retired

By yesterday's overnight stop, Kankkunen was back in front by three seconds and held the lead until he retired.

Finland's Timo Salonen, in a Mazda 323, 4WD, finished fourth and Stig Blomqvist of Sweden, in a Ford Sierra Cosworth, was fifth.

Blomqvist was the last driver from outside Finland to win the rally with his 1971 victory.

Alen's victory, worth 20 points, kept him in third place on 56 points in the World Drivers' Championship but he is now just five behind Italy's Alessandro Fiorio who finished seventh in a Lancia Delta Integrale.

Massimo Biasion of Italy, the world championship leader with 95 points, was out competing in Finland.

More than half the 200 drivers who began the rally, which covered 1,446 km through lake-land forests, failed to complete the course.

Coe records fast time

KOBLENZ, West Germany, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Sebastian Coe, controversially discarded from the British team for the Seoul Olympics, recorded the seventh best time of the year for the 800 metres but was beaten by Jose-Luis Barbosa of Brazil at an international meeting here today.

His performance was overshadowed by a remarkable solo run by Jim Spivey of the United States, who left the field in his wake to win the 1,500 metres in three minutes 31.01 seconds — the second best time of 1988.

Coe, twice Olympic 1,500 metre champion, was unrecognisable from his performance at last month's British Olympic trials, and even from his slow second place on Friday at a meeting in West Berlin. He turned in a sharp one minute 43.93 seconds

— only the fifth man this year to break the 1:44 barrier.

But Barbosa underlined that he is a major medal prospect for Seoul, crossing the line in one minute 43.34 seconds, the fourth best time of 1988. He already holds the year's third-best performance.

Coe's time was just short of compatriot Steve Cram's best run this year, but easily ahead of Peter Elliott and Tom McKean — the men whose selection led to Coe's controversial omission.

Spivey, another Olympic reject after coming only fourth in the US trials in Indianapolis, ran the last lap on his own, leaving Spain Jose-Luis Gonzalez far behind him in 3:36.41 seconds.

His winning time was faster than Briton's Steve Ovett's then-world record set here seven years ago.

Aouita and Cram triumph

LONDON, Aug. 28, (AP): Said Aouita and Steve Cram, still avoiding each other before their expected showdown in Seoul, brought the British track season to a close today with a pair of impressive pre-Olympic victories at an international invitation meet.

Aouita, with the fastest time in the world this year, won the 1,000 metres at the McVitie's Challenge invitation event in 2:15.16 to maintain his unbeaten record this season after 17 races at a variety of distances.

Cram, who vies with the

Moroccan for the 800 and 1,500-metre titles in Seoul, chose the 2,000 metres for his last home appearance before the Games and set a British all-comers record of 4:55.20.

Both runners now go on to Rieti, Italy on Wednesday, to wind up their Olympic preparations.

Aouita, world record holder at 1,500 and 5,000 metres and the Olympic 5,000 metre champion, was over troubled in his only British appearance of the summer.

Olympic flame arrives in Pusan



The mascot tiger for the Games waves a flag in front of the cauldron which was lit in Yongdosa Park. (Reuters wirephoto)

SEOUL, South Korea, Aug. 28, (AP): The Olympic flame arrived in the southern port city of Pusan today to a tumultuous welcome to start a 22-day zigzag relay through mainland South Korea.

More than 100 ships anchored in the harbour sounded a long whistle in unison to welcome the flame which arrived aboard the 10,000-ton ferry Olympia after a 10-hour voyage from Cheju, South Korea's southernmost major island.

Showered

The flame spent a night in Cheju after arrival from Greece, the birthplace of the Olympics, yesterday before being transported to mainland South Korea.

A formation of helicopters showered confetti over the ferry as she sailed into the harbour. At the pier, scores of college girls, wearing traditional Korean costumes, danced to Olympic and other cheerful Korean songs.

Led by a huge emblem of the Seoul Olympics, the flame was handed over to Pusan mayor Ahn Sang-Young for a 2.8 km (1.8 mile) relay to Yongdosa Park in the city centre where it was to be kept overnight.

The flame is to reach the Games' opening ceremonies in Seoul on Sept. 17 after a 22-day, 4,168 km (2,605 miles) zigzag relay through major cities in the country.

On Cheju, the flame made a 204-km (127.5 mile) circle around the island, popular with honeymooners.

This morning, riders on Cheju ponies carried the torch about three miles to the harbour, where several thousand people were waiting, along with boy and girl scouts carrying the flags of the 161 nations entered in the Seoul Games.

As folk dancers gyrated to the booming of drums and gongs, the last rider touched his torch to one carried by Cheju governor Lee Goo-Bo, who then passed the flame on to the Olympia's captain.

The captain lit the cauldron on the ship's upper deck.

Tugs manoeuvred the ship away from the pier, raising salutes with their firehoses, and ships in the harbour sounded a long whistle blast in unison while spectators waved South Korean and Olympic flags.

Escort

More than half a dozen naval vessels moved into position to escort the Olympia, and five Air Force jets thundered overhead, trailing red, yellow, green and purple smoke.

"The curtain on the Olympics has been raised," Seoul Olympic Organising Committee president Park Seh-Jik said yesterday when the flame arrived.

Punjab beat Bright Stars

PUNJAB Cricket Club (Fahaeel) beat Bright Stars by 41 runs to move into the finals of Capri Cup at the Sanaiya ground on Friday.

Imran, the Punjab captain, woo the toss and elected to bat. Baber and Nadir opened the innings and seemed to be in a mood to thrash the Bright Stars bowlers. In the 2nd over of the innings, Arshad Firdwal was hit for 20 runs which included two sixes and a four.

The opener put on 47 runs in the first three overs before Baber misjudged a full toss and was bowled for 28. He hit four sixes. Nadir was the next to be out after scoring 31 with the help of a six and four fours.

Pressure

Robin, who dismissed Nadir, also got rid of Amin and Asghar in quick succession to put pressure on the Punjab batsmen. Hafiz Khalid and Ifikhar, however, stood their ground and hit any loose delivery that was thrown at them.

Hafiz was very harsh on the Bright Stars bowlers, hitting five sixes and a four before he was out for 42. Ifikhar contributed 23 valuable runs as Punjab managed to score 157 before being all out in 23.3 overs.

Nadeem was the main wicket-taker for Bright Stars with four for 37 while Robin got three for



Hafiz hit five sixes

14.

Bright Stars suffered an early loss when Aslam had his stumps uprooted by Asghar in the very first over of the innings. Arun started taking singles in an attempt to put Bright Stars in a better position but Saleem, with his flighted deliveries, spun the wickets of Marvin and Arun.

The Punjab bowlers remained on top as Bright Stars were only able to score 116. Arshad hit 22 and Ajit 21.

Asghar took three wickets for Punjab while Saleem, Imran and Hafiz Khalid got two each and Nadir one.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Union cricket

THE Union Cricket League is scheduled to start on Sept. 16 at the Fahaeel Industrial Area grounds. Interested teams should contact Jan-e-Alam, Tel. 3911320 between 9 am and 12.00 noon and 4.00 to 9.00 pm. Draws will be held at Mawaseem Cafeteria in Fahaeel on Sept. 1 at 7.30 pm.

KOC cricket

THE KOC Thursday League, sponsored by Arescon, will start on Sept. 1. The KOC Friday League, sponsored by Jashamal, will start on Sept. 23. For further information call Lou Fear, Tel. 3989111 ext. 7811.

Sabah Trophy

A GENERAL meeting of the Sabah Trophy cricket tournament organising committee will be held at the Ala Restaurant, Sharq, at 7.30 pm. Participating teams should send their representatives to the meeting. For further information contact Naseem Khurshid, Tel. 4815077 ext. 513.

Last race

LONDON, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Allan Wells of Britain, the 1988 Olympic 100 metres champion, was given an emotional farewell when he ran his last major race at an international athletics meeting at Crystal Palace today.

Pitcock ahead

CRANSTON, R.I., Aug. 28, (Reuters): Joan Pitcock, the youngest player on the Women's Golf Tour, turned in a brilliant 63 yesterday to take a two-stroke lead after two rounds of the \$150,000 Ocean State Open golf tournament.

Three-way tie

AKRON, Ohio, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Australian Ian Baker-Finch and American Mike Reid stumbled at the finish and dropped back into a tie with Larry Nelson for the third round lead in the \$900,000 World Series of Golf yesterday.

LPGA tourney

LAKE LANIER ISLANDS, Ga., Aug. 28, (Reuters): American Rosie Jones came from one stroke behind Ayako Okamoto of Japan to take a five-stroke lead after the third round of the LPGA Championship of Golf yesterday.

Provident Classic

HIXTON, Tenn., Aug. 28, (Reuters): Americans Bill Britton, Payne Stewart, Jim Dent and Phil Blackmar shared the lead yesterday after 54 holes of the \$450,000 Provident Classic with three-day totals of 11-under-par 199.

Formula One

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Qualifying for Formula One Grands Prix could be held over two separate weekends at different venues to deal with an expected large increase in the number of entries. FIA (International Automobile Federation) vice-president Bernie Ecclestone said today.

Perfect dives

LONG BEACH, California, Aug. 28, (AP): Olympic gold medalist Greg Louganis and Weedy Lian Williams both scored perfect dives yesterday in an exhibition billed as the "Seoul sendoff" of the US diving team.

Superbike event

SUGO, Japan, Aug. 28, (Reuters): Davide Tardozzi of Italy, riding a Bimota, retained his overall lead in the World Superbike Championship motorcycle series despite two disappointing rides today.

Evacuation plan

LONDON, Aug. 28, (AP): The British government is setting up an evacuation procedure for the country's athletes and officials in case next month's Seoul Olympic Games are hit by terrorism, a report said today.

Scott triumphs

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Aug. 28, (Reuters): Veteran American Steve Scott overtook Mexico's Arturo Barrios with 200 metres to run to win the 3,000 metres at the Sacramento International Summer Games Athletics Meeting yesterday.

RESULTS of the Hubara Bridge Club games played on Saturday:

1. Sherin & Tawil Ahmed
2. Ghazi & Jassim
3. Kaddoura & Matrouk

RESULTS of the Hubara Bridge Club games played on Sunday:

1. Mrs Pereira & D'Souza
2. Simon & Carsten
3. Chandary & Mukerjee

ARAB @ TIMES

Published by:
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13023 Safat, Kuwait.

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Annual Subscriptions:

Individuals KD 45/
Institutions and Official
Organisations KD 75/
Foreign charges extra for
postage and handling